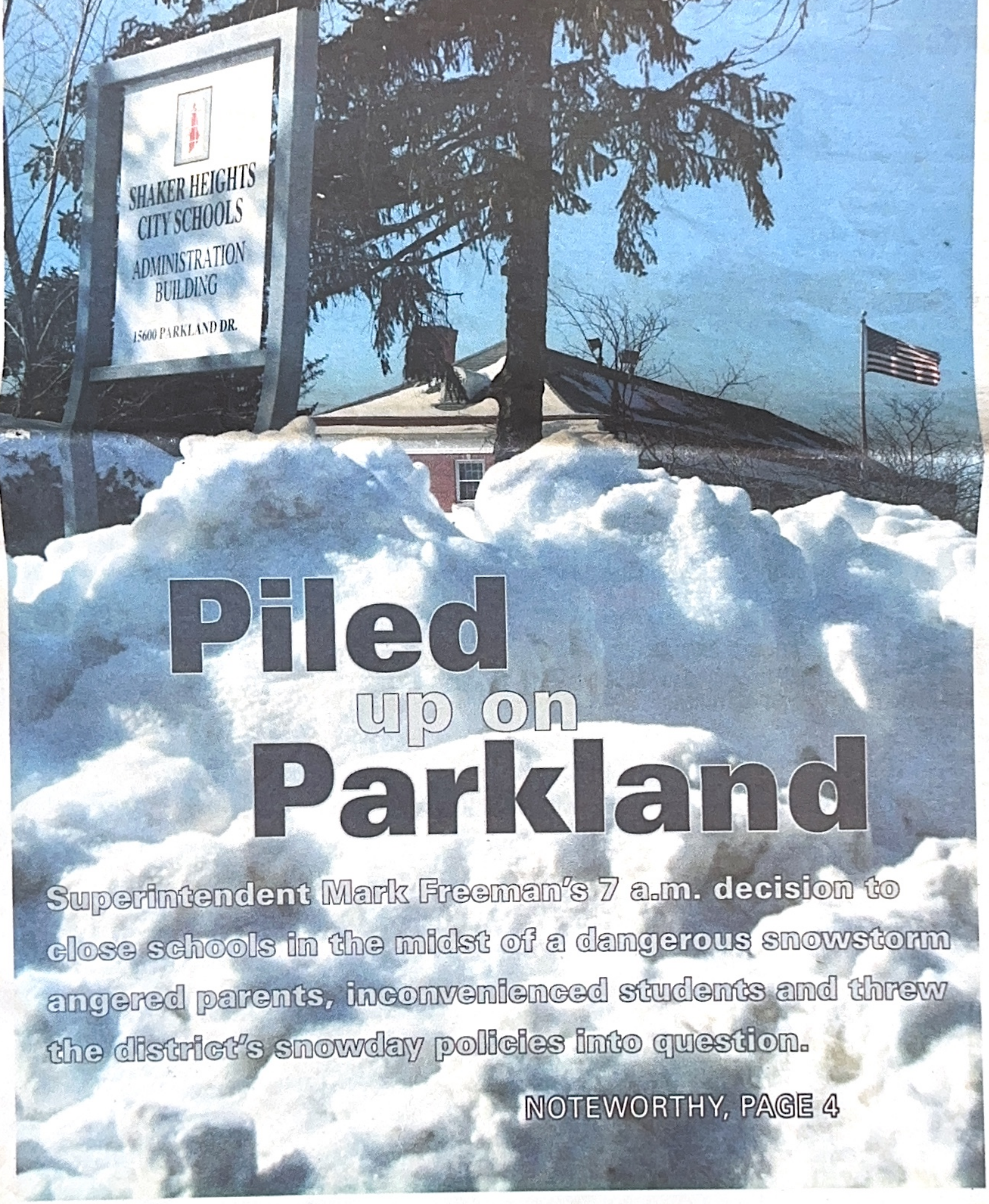
THE SHAKERITE

March 1, 2007 • Volume 77 • Issue 6 • Shaker Heights High School • 15911 Aldersyde Drive • Shaker Heights, Ohio 44120



Piled up on Parkland

Superintendent Mark Freeman's 7 a.m. decision to close schools in the midst of a dangerous snowstorm angered parents, inconvenienced students and threw the district's snowday policies into question.

NOTEWORTHY, PAGE 4

TURNING UP THE TUNES

ELECTRONICS MANUFACTURERS SCRAMBLE TO MATCH THE SUCCESS OF APPLE'S IPOD. LIMELIGHT COMPARES THIS MUSIC GIANT WITH THE MOST POPULAR ALTERNATIVES.

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SIZING UP THE FOOD JOINTS

WHILE SOME STUDENTS ARE MAKING DAILY BURRITO RUNS, RESTRUANTS COMPETE FOR INCOME. HEAD TO THE BEAT TO SEE HOW THE RESTRAUNTS STACKED UP.

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CALLING ON THE FANS

COLUMNIST WESLEY LOWERY CALLS OUT SHAKER'S PLACID BASKETBALL FANS. FLIP TO RAIDER ZONE TO SEE IF YOU AGREE WITH HIS CRITIQUE.

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COVER SHOT

Snow piles outside of the district's Administration Building on Feb. 14. Despite blizzard-like conditions, Superintendent Mark Freeman attempted to keep school in session. His change of mind led to a snow day, though some say the decision came too late. Photo by Adam Maraschky.

SHAKERITE
Piled Parkland

What's Inside

03.01.07

EDITORS' NOTE

Delayed decission quite disappointing

Wearing their inside-out pajamas, Shaker students stared hopelessly at their television screens late into the night, praying that Superintendent Mark Freeman would grant them their one and only Valentine's Day wish: a snow day. The next morning these sleepy students realized that their efforts were for naught; with no sign of Shaker on the school closing lists and without any update on shaker.org many of these students threw on some boots, cleared out their driveways and started their lengthy journeys to school.

WESLEY LOWERY

Unfortunately for the students and teachers who braved the storm, the end of their trip to school only signaled the beginning of their expedition home, for they arrived to find that school had been cancelled.

In the ensuing weeks, Freeman's 7 a.m. decision to cancel classes has been brought under criticism. Not only was the late decision an inconvenience to those en route to school, it also created confusion. Since, Freeman has assured *concerned parents and ticked-off teachers that the districts school closing policy will be reevaluated.*

ALLISON SCHARFSTEIN

As Freeman reconsiders the method for determining school closures, here are some things to keep in mind.

While we appreciate the district's commitment to continuing education, leaders need to recognize the legitimacy of other school closings. Though a plethora of school closings in nearby neighborhoods should never be the sole determinant in a closing, it is unreasonable to discard the decisions of every other district in the county.

In the future, we recommend that Shaker take into account other proximate cancellations along with its own logic, to ensure that decisions are an eclectic mix of evaluation and common sense. In addition, safe conditions consist of more than just cleared parking lots. In order for a school day to be held, streets need to be safe for travel. While students and teachers need a place to park once they arrive, this luxury can only be realized if they are capable of safely arriving at school.

Making a decision based not only on Shaker's own deductions, but also on consideration of the conclusions of other districts as well as the state of the streets, is highly encouraged. Decisions should also be made earlier, preferably in time for drowsy students to sneak back under the covers.

In this particular incident, the danger was not the initial decision to keep classes in session, but rather in the last minute choice to change the call. Freeman's eventual decision to cancel school was made in an effort to protect those commuting to school, but in actuality it only further endangered them.

Once Freeman has made a decision either way, he should stick to that decision regardless of community reaction. We trust his ability to make an educated decision and highly recommend that he do just that – make a call and stick with it.

Who's number one?

WITH THE ACADEMY AWARDS FAST APPROACHING, RAIDER ZONE RANKS THE TOP TEN SPORTS FILMS OF ALL TIME. WILL YOUR FAVORITE COME OUT ON TOP? TO SEE WHO MADE THE CUT FLIP TO THE BACK COVER.

PAGE 20

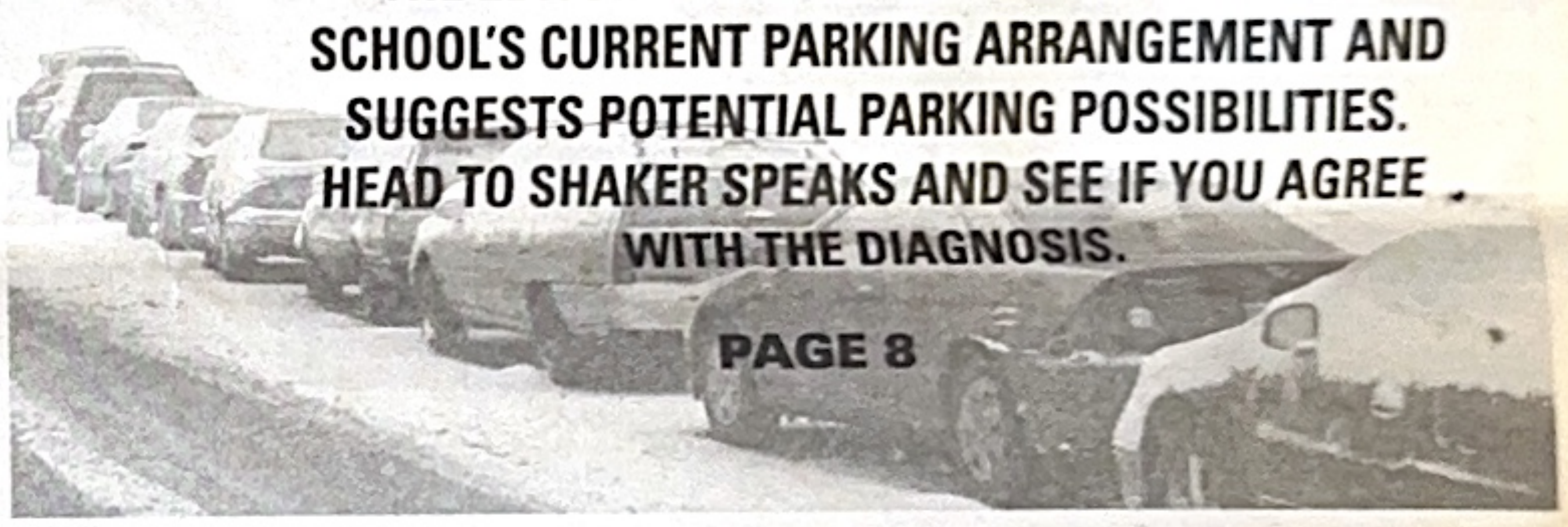
FAMILIES NOT SO PICTURE PERFECT

WITH EVERY OTHER AMERICAN MARRIAGE ENDING IN DIVORCE, THE TYPICAL FAMILY STRUCTURE DIFFERS FROM THAT OF THE PAST. THE CORE EXPLORES SHAKER STUDENTS' VARIOUS FAMILY STRUCTURES.

PAGE 9

PICKING APART

THE PARKING PROBLEM



THE EDITORIAL BOARD EXAMINES THE HIGH SCHOOL'S CURRENT PARKING ARRANGEMENT AND SUGGESTS POTENTIAL PARKING POSSIBILITIES. HEAD TO SHAKER SPEAKS AND SEE IF YOU AGREE WITH THE DIAGNOSIS.

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THE SHAKERITE
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This Month

03.01.07

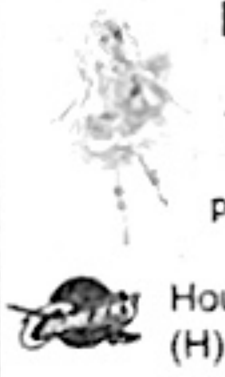
MARCH ISN'T JUST FOR THE IRISH

When people think of March, they think of St. Patrick's Day: Shamrocks, leprechauns, and rainbows with a pot of gold. Both non-Irish and Irish folks, clad in green from head to toe, celebrate St. Patrick, the patron saint of Ireland on March 17. But not all of us share the luck of the Irish. For those who don't, March offers Cavaliers games, concerts and more fun holidays to celebrate. If that can't get you through the month, remember that starting March 1 there are only 30 more days until spring break!

march

Calendar Key

Theatrical Production
'07 Class of 2007
Athletic Event
Cleveland Cavalier Game
Concert

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 **Peanut Butter Lover's Day** Dallas Mavericks (A) @ 7 p.m.	2 Dr. Seuss' Birthday (1904-1991) Sankofa @ 7 p.m.	3 Toronto Raptors (H) @ 7:30 p.m.
4	5 Early Dismissal Houston Rockets (H) @ 7 p.m.	6 Gym Class Heroes (House of Blues) @ 6 p.m.	7 '07 Senior Project forms due Detroit Pistons (A) @ 7:30 p.m.	8	9	10 Milwaukee Bucks (A) @ 7:30 p.m.
11 Daylight Saving Time Indiana Pacers (H) @ 6 p.m	12 Delayed Start (OGT testing) →	13 Sacremento Kings (H) @ 7 p.m.	14 National Potato Chip Day Memphis Grizzlies (A) @ 7 p.m.	15	16	17 Saint Patrick's Day Utah Jazz (H) @ 7:30 p.m.
18	19 30 Seconds to Mars (Agora Theatre) @ 7:30 p.m.	20  Barbie Doll Day The day the first Barbie Doll premiered in 1959 Houston Rockets (H) @ 7 p.m.	21 Earth Day New Stages @ 8 p.m. Dallas Mavericks (H) @ 8 p.m.	22 New Stages @ 8 p.m. New York Knicks (H) @ 7:30 p.m.	23 New Stages @ 7 p.m. and 9:15 p.m	24 New Stages @ 7 p.m. and 9:15 p.m
25 Denver Nuggets (H) @ 8 p.m.	26	27 National "Joe" Day Indiana Pacers (A) @ 7 p.m	28 Men's and women's winter athletic awards program @ 6:30 p.m. New York Knicks (A) @ 7:30 p.m.	29	30 Spirit Breakfast @ 7:15 a.m.	31 Widespread Panic (State Theatre-Play House Square) @ 7 p.m. Chicago Bulls (A) @ 2 p.m.

Infographic by Sarah Brandon

Ohio Graduation Test and class schedule

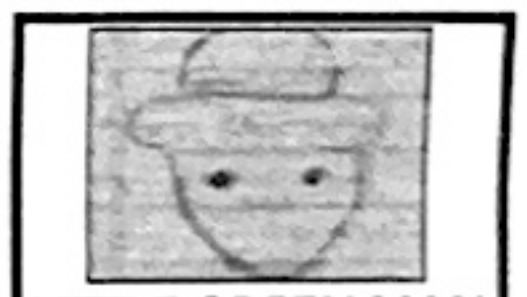
Time	Monday	Tuesday		Thursday	Friday	Time	Wednesday
8:00-10:40 a.m. OGT Testing	Reading	Math	See Wednesday's Schedule Listed at Right	Science	Social Studies	8:00-10:40 a.m. OGT Testing	Writing
10:45-11:35 a.m.	Lunch	Lunch		Lunch	Lunch	10:45-11:35 a.m.	Lunch
11:39-12:29 p.m.	1st period	4/5/6th period		4/5/6th period	1st period	11:39-12:19 p.m.	1st period
12:33-1:23 p.m.	2nd period	6/7/8th period		6/7/8th period	2nd period	12:23-1:03 p.m.	2nd period
1:27-2:17 p.m.	3rd period	9th period		9th period	3rd period	1:07-1:47 p.m.	3rd period
2:21-3:11 p.m.	10th period	10th period		10th period	10th period	1:51-1:31 p.m.	4/5/6th period
						2:35-3:15 p.m.	10th period

SPRING FORWARD

Everyone get ready to spring forward! In an effort to conserve resources during World War I, Congress approved a law that altered U.S. time zones by moving clocks ahead by one hour. The time change, known as Daylight Saving Time, lasts for seven months. On the second Sunday in March the clocks will be pushed forward an hour. The actual time change will be effective at 2 a.m. Even though we lose an hour of sleep, this time change allows us to enjoy the spring and summer nights longer.

FAVORITE SNACK

Potato chips are one of Americans' favorite snack foods, so it seems appropriate to have a day in honor of the delicious snack. Potato chips were *invented in 1853 by Native American chef George Crum. To spite a dinner guest who despised his too-thick French fries, Crum made his French fries thin and crisp. The plan backfired because the guest loved the paper-thin potatoes.*



LITTLE GREEN MAN

On St. Patrick's Day 2006, a magical leprechaun stunned citizens of Mobile Ala. This leprechaun allegedly occupied a tree, only at night, and disappeared when light was shone on it. An amateur sketch helped police and civilians spot this mysterious creature. Some thought this leprechaun was in fact a crack head who used tainted drugs. Others searched for a pot of gold under the tree it inhabited. This mystery was never solved and the gold was never found. To see the video for yourself, visit youtube.com.

NAME YOUR NAME

For those who hate their names, National "Joe" Day is a relief. This is the only day when you can change your name to whichever one you like. If you need some ideas, look right for the top five boys and girls names in 2006, courtesy of babycenter.com.

Girls
1. Emma
2. Madison
3. Ava
4. Emily
5. Isabella

Boys
1. Aiden
2. Jacob
3. Ethan
4. Ryan
5. Matthew

Compiled by Sarah Brandon

PEACE AWARD DONATED TO SHAKER STUDENTS

Heights Christian Church, a congregation that is dedicated to teaching, working and witnessing "peace with justice," is giving a Peace Award and a $500 stipend to a nominated Shaker Heights High School junior or senior who demonstrates peacemaking qualities. According to the church, the chosen student should be a peacemaker in the high school community, upholding the safety and well being of his/her peers. The student should support efforts to overcome racism and avoid violence.

Adam Maraschky • The Shakerite

ONAWAY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL'S field was blanketed with three feet of snow after the storm on the week of Feb. 14. The snow created the appearence that the area is level.

BETTER LATE THAN NEVER?

• The delayed 7 a.m. closing provokes student and teacher animosity toward superintendant

BY BOBBY O'CONNOR
NOTEWORTHY EDITOR

The Shaker Heights School District notified students and staff only an hour before school was scheduled to begin that schools were closed Feb. 14.

While most school districts in the region announced their closings Tuesday night, or very early Wednesday morning, Superintendent Mark Freeman did not decide to close Shaker schools until approximately 7 a.m.

By the time the news came out, many teachers had started their commutes to school, children were awake and dressed and custodians and ground crews had spent hours plowing and shoveling.

Both personal and recorded phone messages were sent out to inform students of the closing, but many students were never contacted.

The late decision left the community wondering what had changed between 5 a.m. and 7 a.m. when Freeman decided to cancel school.

"The late notice showed a true lack of respect for the situation of others, especially those who do not live in the nearby areas," said a Shaker Heights middle school teacher, who preferred that her name be withheld.

Junior Natalie Schelling's mother heard the late cancellation on the radio and then got a call from her neighbors confirming that school was closed. "I had already taken a shower and I was all dressed when my mom told me school was cancelled," Shelling said.

Freshman Alyssa Dietz was on her way out the door when she learned school had been canceled. "I think it was kind of rude because a lot of people were already [at school] or on their way there. People were upset they had to get ready [for school]," Dietz said.

Freeman later apologized for his late decision in a letter posted on the Shaker website. "I am profoundly sorry for the anxiety and inconvenience caused to students, parents, and staff members," the letter stated.

Freeman reiterated that his decision was unjustified and that the safety of both the students and teachers was his top priority. "The safety of our students and staff is what drove the decision [to close school]," Freeman said.

Although the closure protected students who had yet to leave for school, those that were already en-route were endangered.

Daniel Clements dropped off his son, Mathew, at Mercer Elementary School for before-school care, before he realized that school had been closed. The father then went to drop his daughter off at the middle school, where he realized that the schools were closed. Clements frightened son was left without direct supervision in the almost empty building.

Daniel Clements could not be contacted.

Freeman said that the only other people in the building were custodians and that the early start program teachers were not there. "His dad dropped him [Mathew] off and did not realize that school was not in session," Freeman said.

Despite the apology to students, teachers and administrators remain distraught over the late call. Rebecca Thomas, Shaker Heights Teacher's Association president, called the late decision a "devastating" and "risky" one in a letter to SHTA members.

She said that she would like to see a clear policy on closures. "We want to see a written policy that includes a checklist so that this decision is based on clear guidelines," Thomas stated.

In his apology letter, Freeman explained his process for calling the snow day. "Conditions worsened in the early morning hours, and I realized too late that it would be a mistake to open. At that point, I determined that it was in the best interest of student and staff safety to close" Freeman stated in his apology letter.

Freeman later stated that the reason he did not initially cancel school was because at 4 a.m. many Shaker roads and school parking lots were cleared.

Still, Schelling thought the snow day was too close of a call. "I think he [Freeman] was trying to hold his record of continuing education over taking time off school, but he went overboard to the point where students' safety could have been compromised," Shelling said.

Freshman James Shields agreed. "I don't understand [why he waited until the morning] because, come on, all the other schools in the area were closed, there was a lot of snow and it was only going to get worse," Shields said.

The week before, Freeman closed the schools for two days because of extremely low temperatures. However, Freeman said that this did not at all influence the decision for the Feb. 14 closing.

"I think it was a good decision [to close school], it was just a little too late," senior Eric Wilson said.

BRIEFS

BOARD OF EDUCATION

- The Martha Holden Jennings Foundation has awarded the District a $12,000 grant for the production of a video on Shaker's initiatives to promote students' exposure to Asian culture. The video will document the high school marching band's upcoming performance tour in China, as well as the recently added classes in Mandarin Chinese and high school's well-established Asian Studies program, developed in association with the Cleveland Museum of Art.

- Programming problems with state-mandated student information systems continue to pose significant challenges for the District. The Lakeshore Northeast Ohio Computing Association (LNOCA), a 15-district partnership of which Shaker is a member, contracts with outside agencies and vendors to write software according to specifications established by the state. The delays and bugs have had a major impact on the data processing division, the special education department and the high school guidance department, requiring staff members to put in extra hours to create student schedules, complete report cards on time and meet state reporting deadlines.

- A pair of Shaker brothers have earned top honors in local National Geographic Bee competitions. Evan Seballos, a fifth grader at Woodbury Elementary School and Spencer Seballos, a seventh grader at Shaker Heights Middle School won their respective school geography bees last month. After becoming school-level champions, both Evan and Spencer took state competition qualification examinations. They will find out in March if they are to advance to the next round. State winners will compete at the national level in Washington, D.C., in May.

Compiled by Bobby O'Connor

FRESH NEW PLACE TO FOOD SHOP

BY CAITLIN NIELSEN
NOTEWORTHY EDITOR

A new grocery chain has joined the ranks of Heinen's and Giant Eagle. The Fresh Market, a neighborhood specialty grocer, opened its doors to the Shaker community Jan. 24.

According to freshmarket.com, "The Fresh Market was founded on one simple idea: To bring neighbors, family and friends products they could savor and appreciate."

Founded in Greensboro, N.C. in 1982 by Ray and Beverly Berry, The Fresh Market now has 60 stores being operated in the Southeast and Midwest.

Of those 60, three are in Ohio: one in Cincinnati, one in Columbus and the newest one in Shaker. There is another store soon opening in Columbus.

Senior Lizzy Quigley enjoys shopping at The Fresh Market, although she feels it does have its flaws.

"I like the atmosphere, everything looks delicious and everybody wants to give you a sample," she said. The slow pace and the inconvenient location of the customer service area, however, bothered her.

Her family still shops at Heinen's for their "produce and stuff," however. "I think everything [at the Fresh Market] is overpriced, but not dramatically," she said.

When Quigley goes to The Fresh Market, she either gets the already prepared food or items from the bakery. "I like the big thing of jelly beans and I love the peanut butter cups."

Junior Andrew Hunt has only been once and among his purchases were pickles and cookies. He liked the small size and that they had more organic foods but he thought it was pretty expensive. "That was a downer," he said.

Out of the store's 105 employees, 15 are Shaker students. Senior Zoe Gordon is among them.

Gordon works about 18-21 hours every week, earning $8 per hour. "I work the candy, coffee and floral sections," she said. "I normally close, so I'm here till ten."

It's Gordon's job to walk around and check that price tags are not showing - "they are not allowed to be seen" - and answer people's questions. She also offers customers samples, as is required in her job.

Gordon sees more Shaker parents than students when working. "I see parents all the time, it's kind of awkward," she said. "After seven though, it gets kind of boring; no one comes in anymore."

Junior Julia Murphy has not been to the new market but is considering going sometime soon with her mom. "My mom goes every week and I kind of want to go," Murphy said.

Junior German exchange student Florian Mockel has not had a chance nor a need to go to The Fresh Market. However, he will go in search of a particular item. "I want to go if it has some German sausage!" he said.

NOW OPEN
THE FRESH MARKET

Dan Snider • The Shakerite

THE FRESH MARKET, Shaker Heights' newest grocercy store, opened its doors Jan. 24 at their newly renovated Van Aken Shopping Center location.

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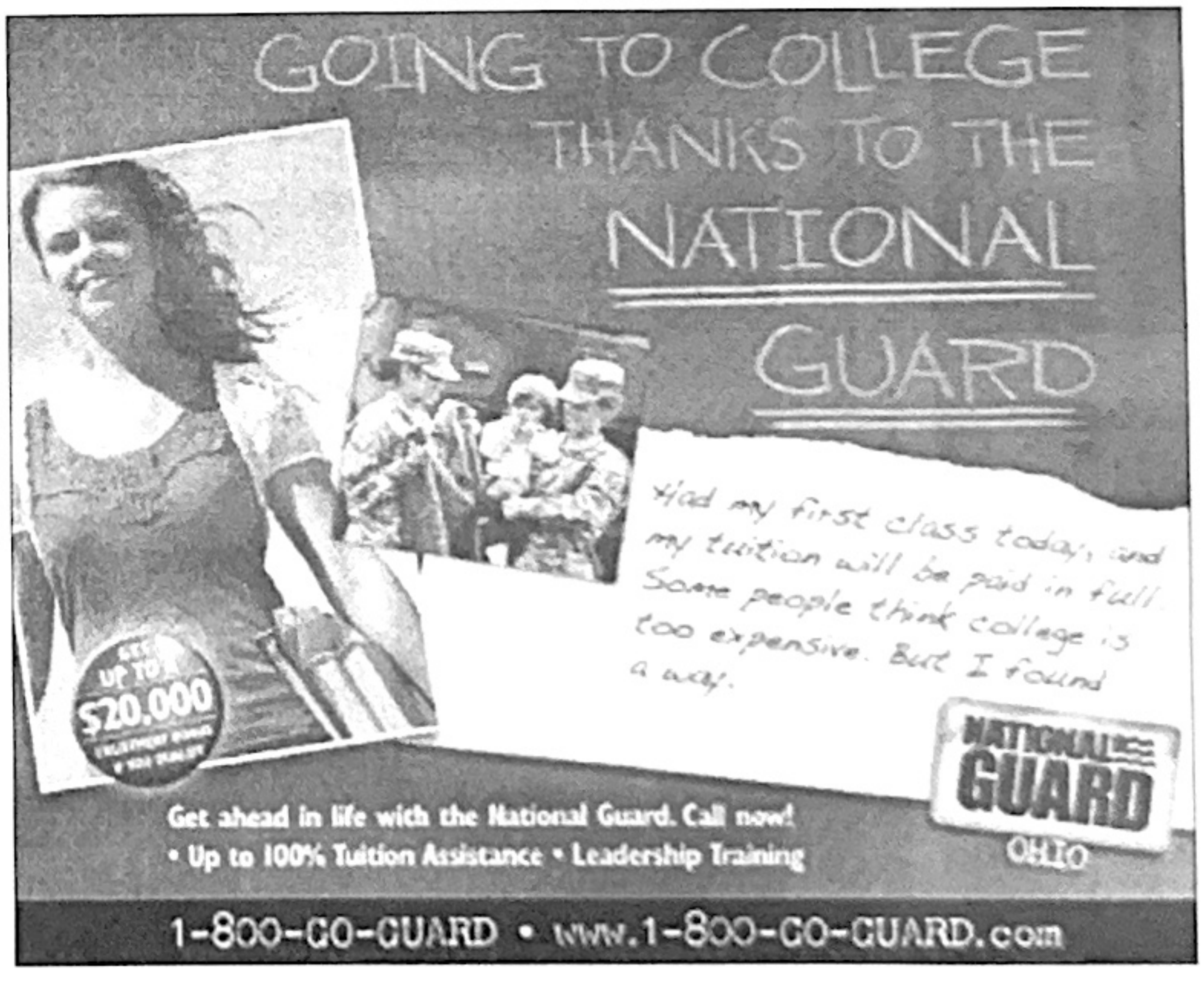
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USA news

1. LOS ANGELES

Feb. 15 - A former U.S. border agent who took as much as $120,000 in cash to allow hundreds of illegal immigrants to cross into the U.S. from Mexico was sentenced Feb. 15 to five years in prison. Michael Gilliland, 44, who worked for 16 years on the busy Otay Mesa crossing, pled guilty last year to bribery and smuggling charges dating back to 2004.

2. CAMP PENDLETON, CA

Feb. 13 – Lance Cpl. Robert Pennington, a 22-year-old U.S. Marine offered a guilty plea to conspiracy charges Feb. 13 in connection with the killing of a 52-year-old Iraqi. This makes him the fifth man to plead guilty in the death of Hashim Ibrahim Awad in April 2006. Navy investigators believe that the Marines conspired to kill a known insurgent but could not locate the man.

3. HURON, OHIO

Feb. 15 - An Ohio couple was sentenced Feb. 15 for endangering and abusing their 11 foster children by locking them in caged beds. Michael and Sharen Gravelle have been ordered to pay $11,000 for the children's counseling and have received 2-year prison terms, though the Huron County Prosecutor Russ Leffler had asked for 12-year sentences. The Gravelles said that they had built the cages to keep the children from hurting themselves and stealing food.

4. PHOENIX

Feb. 8 - An unknown gunman shot three illegal immigrants as they tried to cross the Mexican border in southern Arizona Feb. 8. The investigation suggests the bandit carried out the attack because the road is well known for human trafficking. Reuters reported that officers found the bodies of two men in a pickup truck in the desert 20 miles southwest of Tucson, and the body of third man on roadside nearby.

5. PHILADELPHIA

Feb. 13 - Vincent Dortch, 44, of Newark, Delaware called six colleagues to a boardroom meeting before binding and *shooting them execution-style, Reuters reported. Dortch went back into the building to shoot the victims a second time before turning the gun on himself. He blamed the men for the loss of about $200,000.* The sole survivor Patrick Sweeney, 31, managed to call *911 after he slipped his bindings and spliced together the wires of a telephone that had been ripped apart.*

World news

1. BEIJING

Feb. 15 – A Chinese man has been sentenced to death because of a giant scam to breed ants. Wang Zhendong fabricated a business that was supposedly making wine, tea and medical elixirs using mature ants. Through this company he was able to scam 3 billion Yuan ($387 million). He sold packages of ants for as much as 10,000 Yuan ($1,290) when they were only worth 200 Yuan. Investigators could only recover 10 million Yuan of the money raised by Zhendong.

2. MEXICO CITY

Feb. 13 – Dozens of dinosaur footprints were found in Mexico. The prints date back up to 110 million years. Biologist Oscar Polaco said the footprints belonged to three prehistoric species that came to drink water in the area. Last year scientists identified 30 other dinosaur prints in the same region, which is famous for its large number of fossil deposits. Polaco said that he believes they may be brontosaurus prints.

3. MOSCOW

Feb. 13 – A private jet, with no passengers on board, crashed at a Moscow airport while taking off for Berlin during a snowstorm. Reuters reported that during takeoff there was a flare-up in the engine, causing the plane to fall off the runway. The crash site at Vnukovo airport was closed while investigators removed and sorted through the wreckage.

4. KINSHASA, DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO

Feb. 20 – 17 Congolese army soldiers and former militia fighters were sentenced to life imprisonment by seperate local military authorities. Military courts found them guilty of massacring 30 civilians late last year. The victims, including women and children, disappeared during army operations.

5. RIO DE JANEIRO, BRAZIL

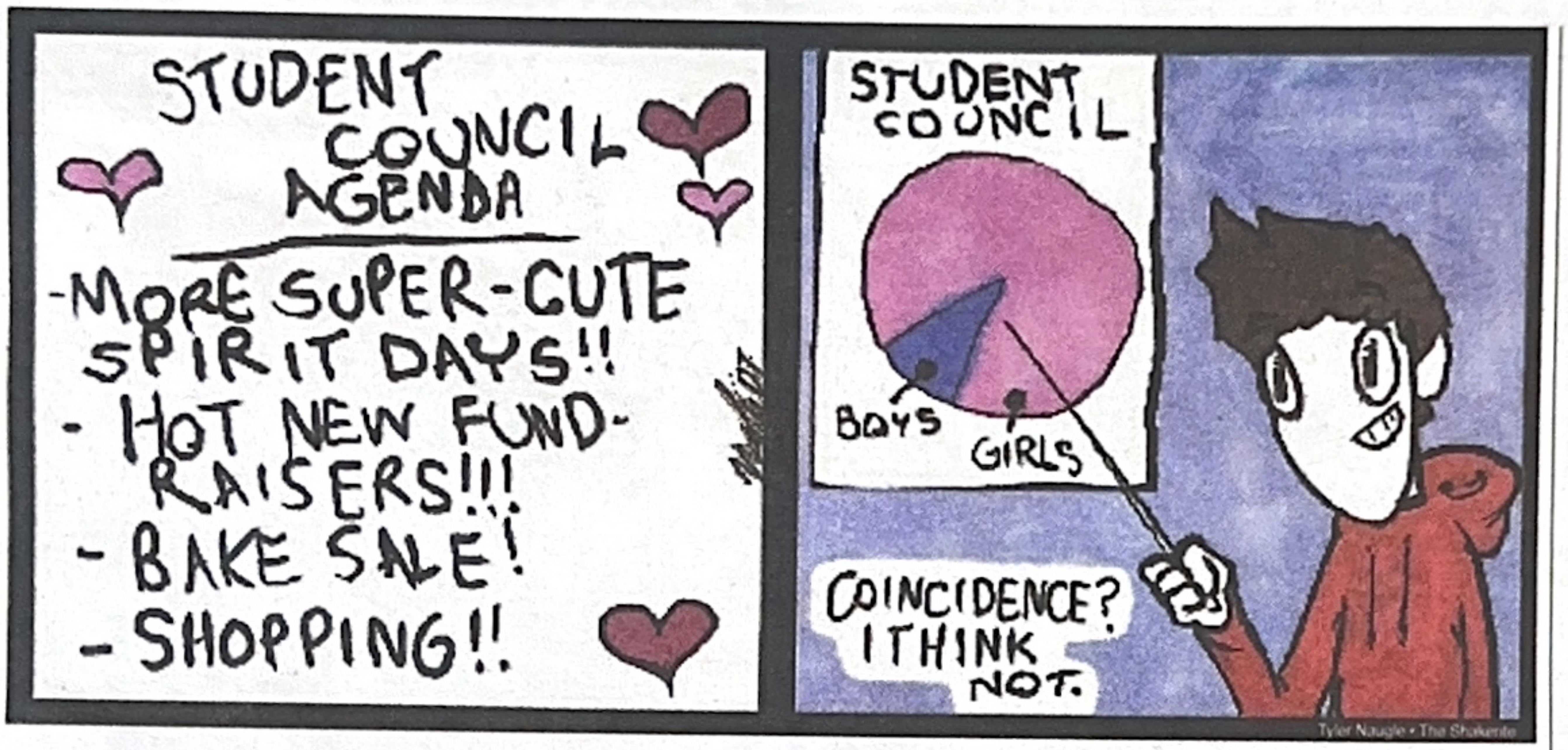
Feb. 20 – Beauty queen Angela Bismarchi lost her only item of clothing, a tapasexo, a small glittery dress, mid-parade during Brazil's Carnival. During the celebration, full nudity is officially banned (although many outfits leave little to the imagination). The 13 samba schools are judged on their floats, music and dancing over two nights for the title of Carnival champion. Bismarchi was left entirely naked when her patch of glitter fell away. However, she was able to locate a thong and continue to dance.

Shaker Speaks

03.01.07

PRODUCT (RED) HELPS AIDS FOUNDATION

Red is the new black thanks to the PRODUCT (RED) campaign. With brands like Gap and Converse participating, PRODUCT (RED) is harnessing the power of consumers and directing it towards the AIDS crisis in Africa. When consumers buy (RED) designated products, a portion of the profit goes towards purchasing and distributing anti-retroviral medicine to AIDS victims. Want to be trendy and help save lives? Check out www.joinred.com for a complete list of (RED) approved products.


STUDENT COUNCIL AGENDA
-MORE SUPER-CUTE SPIRIT DAYS!!
- HOT NEW FUND-RAISERS!!!
- BAKE SALE!
- SHOPPING!!
STUDENT COUNCIL
BOYS
GIRLS
COINCIDENCE? I THINK NOT.

Tyler Naugle • The Shakerite

STUDENT COUNCIL CRITIQUE

GRADE REPORT

SHAKER HEIGHTS HIGH SCHOOL
15911 Aldersyde Drive
Shaker Heights, OH 44120

Student Number	Student Name
070809	COUNCIL, STUDENT

rite idea

As we venture into the second semester of the 2006-2007 school year, the Editorial Board has decided to evaluate the progress of Student Council. They should be held accountable for their shortcomings, as well as praised for their accomplishments. With that in mind, here are the first semester grades for Student Council.

NAME	SEM	COMMENTS
COMMUNICATION COMITTEE	A	The communications committee is responsible for promoting Student Council's activities, primarily dances and spirit days. From what we have seen, the committee has done an excellent job keeping the student body informed of upcoming events. Dances are well promoted over the morning announcements and spirit days are attractively advertised with posters around the school.
SPIRIT COMMITTE	B	The spirit committee devises ideas for spirit days and makes them happen. Themed days, like '80s Day, are fun for everyone and help promote school unity. Spirit days associated with sporting events have mixed results. These days only seemed to be attached to hockey games. What about important swim meets or basketball games? It's important for student council to encourage students to support all of Shaker's sports teams.
DANCE COMMITEE	C	Organizing and putting on dances is a big task that Student Council could work on. This year's Homecoming had a creative theme and was thoughtfully decorated, but Winter Ball was poorly attended, and seemed hastily thrown together.
FUNDRAISING COMMITEE	C	Props to the fundraising committee for mixing it up this year. While the United Way fundraiser remains controversial and was not very successful this year, the Old School Sale was a new and creative idea that benefited both Student Council and the student body. By choosing an organization that isn't as divisive as United Way, Student Council would be better able to encourage student charity.
CLUB AND RULES	B	The Clubs and Rules committee has approved several clubs this year including Deaf Culture Club and STAND, the anti-genocide group. While we appreciate their willingness to induct new and exciting clubs, we would like to see Student Council become more involved with school rules. Student Council should be the liaison between the student body and the administration.

Hip-Hop: Alive and Kicking

Bryson Guilford

There is not a time in the history of rap when glamorizing one's bank account and car collection was not included or formed around their rap.

Today it's just that it has exploded to the point where that's all you hear. I seldom listen to the radio because it's the same thing over and over.

Everybody and their grandmother can rap nowadays and it's accepted. Hip-hop has evolved. It isn't dead, but it's changing.

Now whether or not it's changing for the good or bad is up to you. I feel young people are making money and making people feel good.

I don't listen to a lot of commercialized rap. I'm not saying I have completely excluded myself from it. I'm 16. I'm going to find some of it appealing.

In Colin Jackson's column, "The Demise of Hip-hop," [Volume 77, Issue 5] he writes, "They are reduced to reproducing songs that have already been made, a form of music called sampling." The art of sampling was not created or patented in 2005, 2006 or 2007.

People like the great DJ Premier mastered the sampling of old songs by speeding them up and scratching them into the hook.

My favorite emcees are looked down upon as old and out of date, when in reality half the rappers out would be nowhere if it were not for these legends.

I feel as though the article printed was inaccurate and completely unrealistic. I believe true hip-hop fans should know their history and should be able to separate what is true to the art and commercialized actors.

I think my generation is blind when it comes to real hip-hop. I am not saying I am better than anybody, music is music, by all means listen to whatever your into. Personally, the commercialized garbage is on television doesn't intrest me. Now, I love to party and my generation can party. That's the only time I really don't care who is playing and what they're saying.

Real hip-hop consists of 48 bar bangas, with no hooks and five or six emcees going in for five minutes. I believe there is too much mediocrity and not enough passion within hip-hop.

The people who I feel have and still are keeping real hip-hop alive are the WuTang Clan, AZ, Jeru Da Damaja, Little Brother, Bronze Nazareth, Justus League, 9th Wonder, KRS-ONE, Rakim, DJ Premier, GZA the Genius, Pete Rock and CL Smooth, De La Soul, RaeKwon the Chef and Tribe Called Quest.

Many of the people I know clown me because of my choice of music. But the people I just named and many others are doing what nobody on television or the radio is doing: keeping it original, genuine and real.

The current state of hip-hop is of no concern to me. With the above artists still turning out classic material, hip-hop will never die.

Knowing what else is out there and exploring hip-hop history is the best way to block yourself from the commercialized nonsense that floods the television and radio.

After you have heard some good hip-hop you will know the difference. Hip-hop forever.

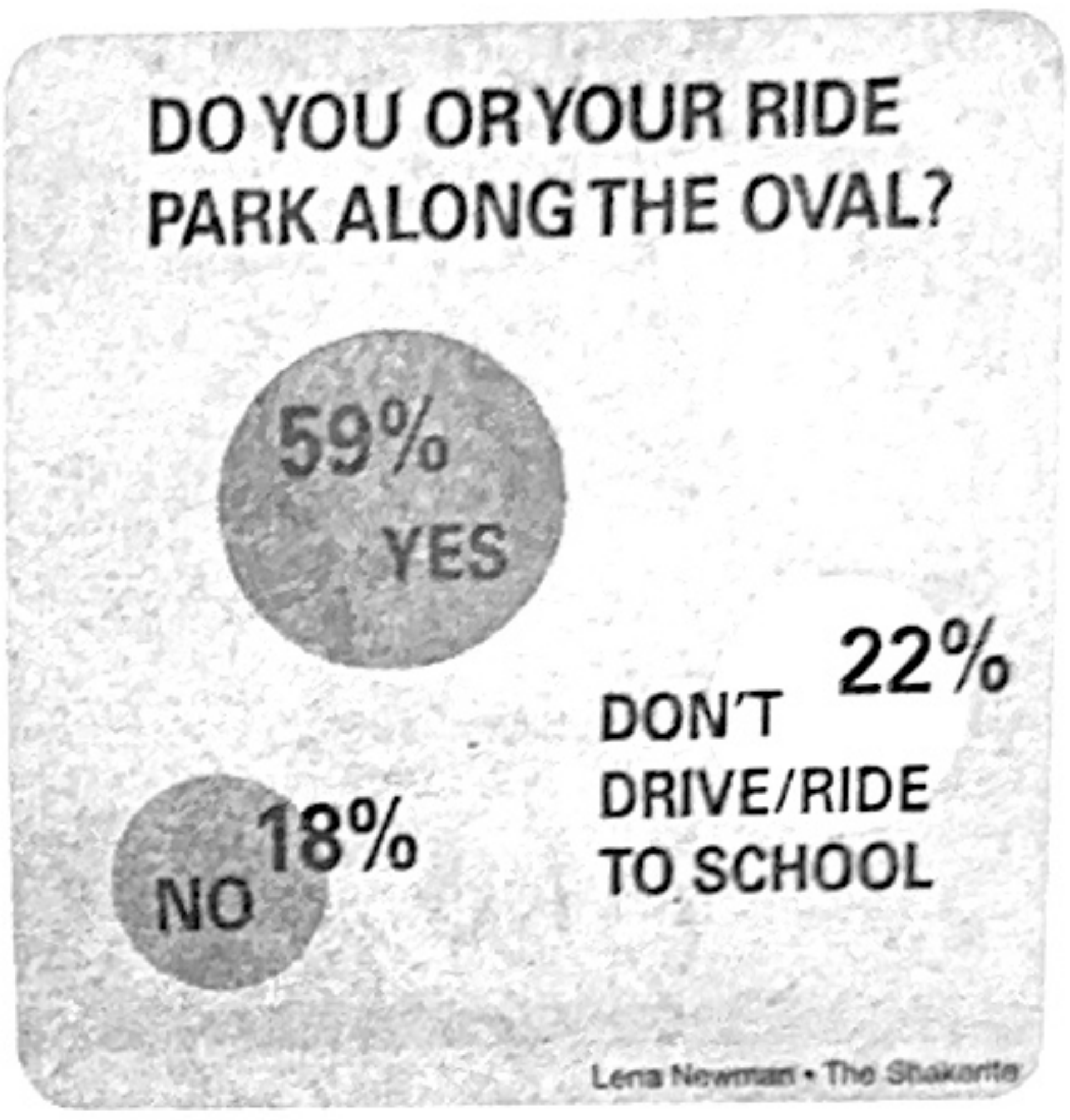
Solving Shaker's parking problem: three different takes

• Students need place to park other than over-crowded Oval

'rite idea

EXPANDING THE TEACHERS' LOT

In the spring, renovations will extend the cafeteria and divide part of the lawn that currently borders the teachers' parking lot by the South Gym. That new, small lawn could be paved over and added on to the current lot. If students were allowed to park there, fewer cars would be competing for space on the Oval. The teachers would park in the original lot and the new spaces would be for students. The spaces could be outlined in a different color to distinguish them from the teachers' spaces.



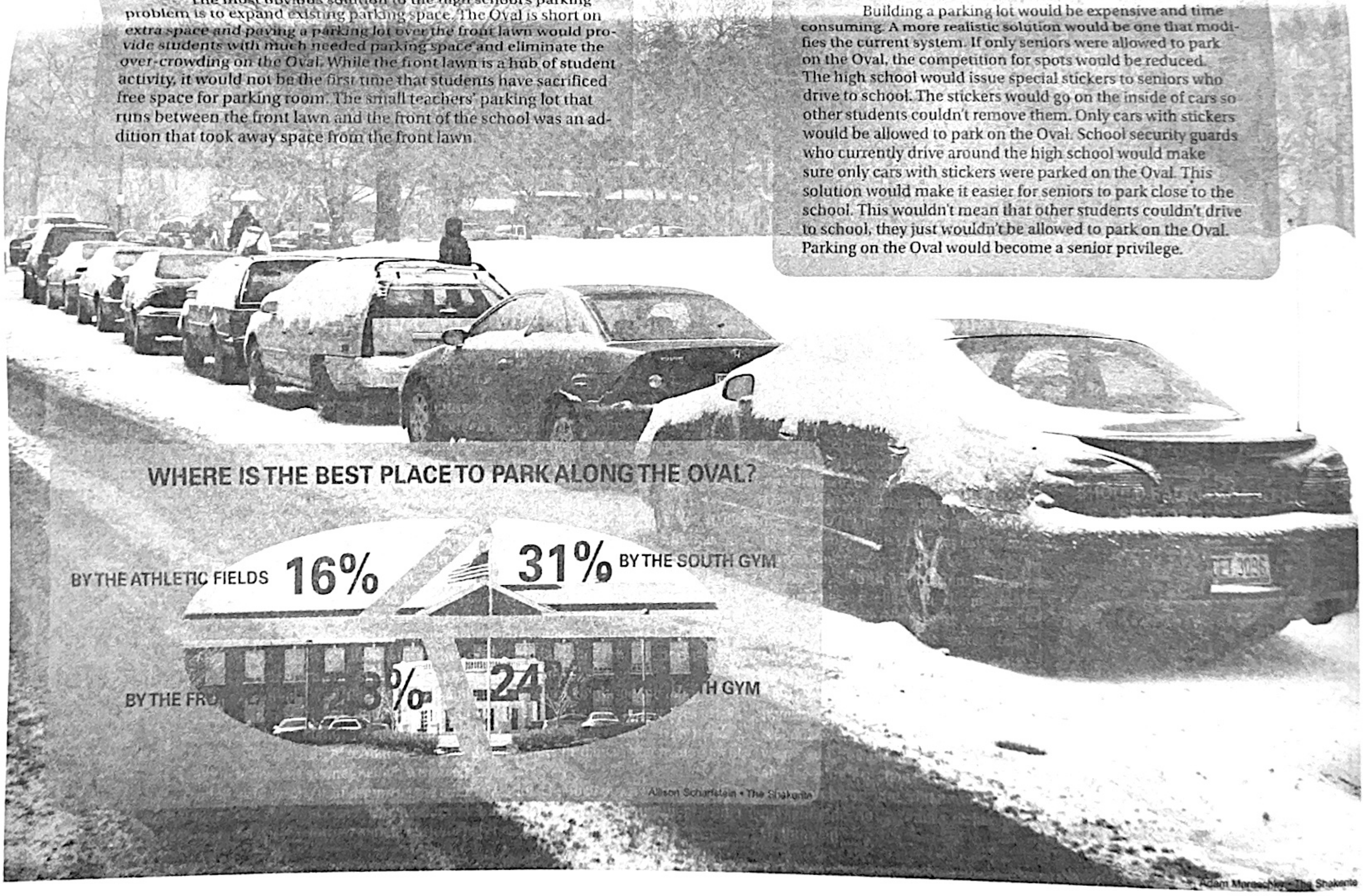
Lena Newman • The Shakerite

PAVING THE FRONT LAWN

The most obvious solution to the high school's parking problem is to expand existing parking space. The Oval is short on extra space and paving a parking lot over the front lawn would provide students with much needed parking space and eliminate the over-crowding on the Oval. While the front lawn is a hub of student activity, it would not be the first time that students have sacrificed free space for parking room. The small teachers' parking lot that runs between the front lawn and the front of the school was an addition that took away space from the front lawn.

STICKERS

Building a parking lot would be expensive and time consuming. A more realistic solution would be one that modifies the current system. If only seniors were allowed to park on the Oval, the competition for spots would be reduced. The high school would issue special stickers to seniors who drive to school. The stickers would go on the inside of cars so other students couldn't remove them. Only cars with stickers would be allowed to park on the Oval. School security guards who currently drive around the high school would make sure only cars with stickers were parked on the Oval. This solution would make it easier for seniors to park close to the school. This wouldn't mean that other students couldn't drive to school, they just wouldn't be allowed to park on the Oval. Parking on the Oval would become a senior privilege.



Adam Moreschi • The Shakerite

Allison Scharfstein • The Shakerite

The Core

03.01.07

FAMILY TREES BRANCH OFF IN NEW DIRECTIONS

• As more families leave the white picket fence idea of the 'perfect' family behind, growing diversity brings up new questions of what it means to be a family.

• CHANGES IN THE FAMILY STRUCTURE • PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT • FAMILY DINNER BACK IN STYLE

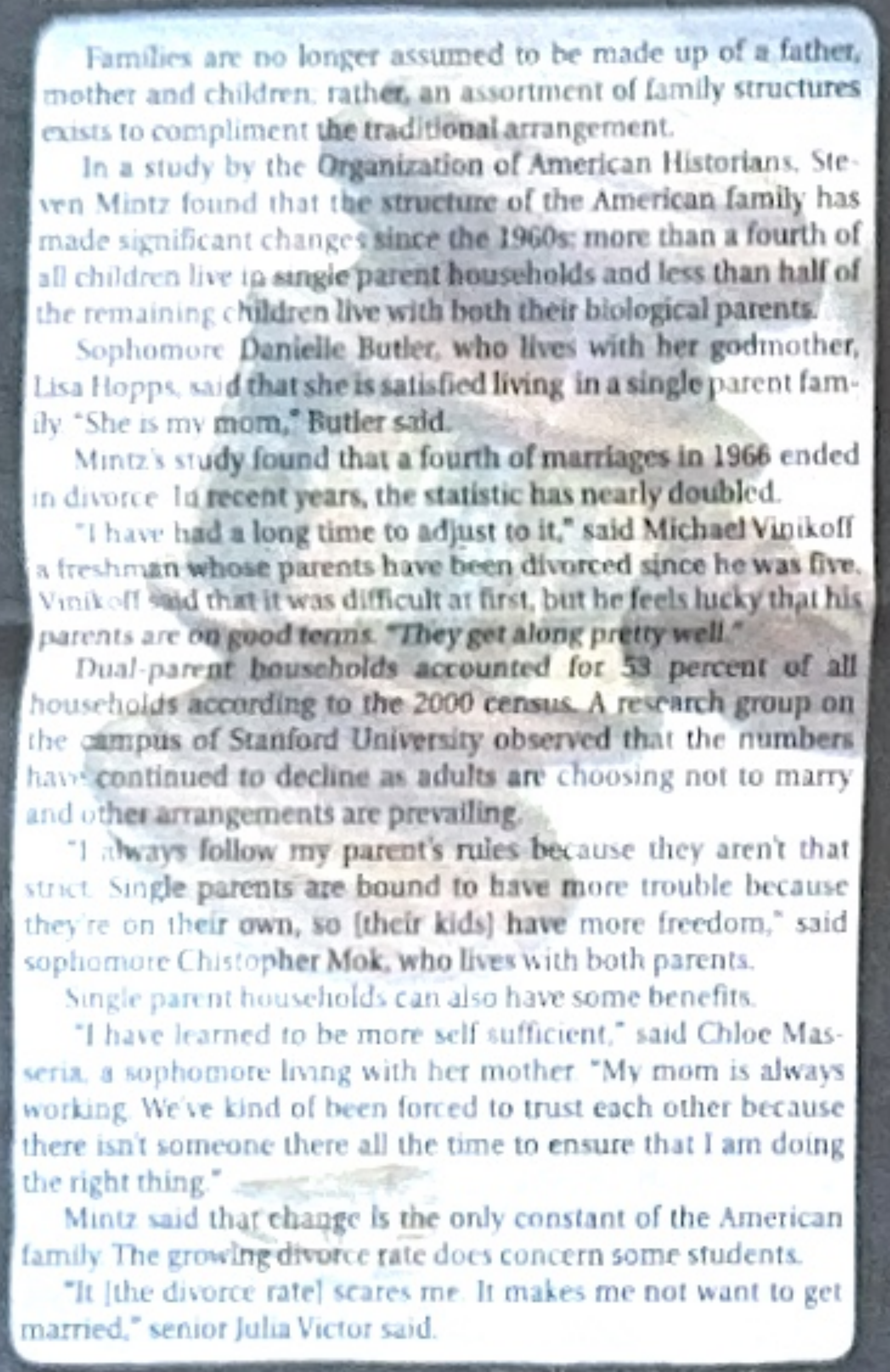
• SHAKER FAMILIES PROFILED •

Photo Illustration by Adam Meraschky

CHANGING TIMES MARK END OF TRADITIONAL FAMILY

A new look to the family tree

BY KELSEY DEFOREST & NTENI NLANDU
THE CORE EDITORS



Families are no longer assumed to be made up of a father, mother and children; rather, an assortment of family structures exists to compliment the traditional arrangement.

In a study by the Organization of American Historians, Steven Mintz found that the structure of the American family has made significant changes since the 1960s: more than a fourth of all children live in single parent households and less than half of the remaining children live with both their biological parents.

Sophomore Danielle Butler, who lives with her godmother, Lisa Hopps, said that she is satisfied living in a single parent family. "She is my mom," Butler said.

Mintz's study found that a fourth of marriages in 1966 ended in divorce. In recent years, the statistic has nearly doubled.

"I have had a long time to adjust to it," said Michael Vinikoff a freshman whose parents have been divorced since he was five. Vinikoff said that it was difficult at first, but he feels lucky that his parents are on good terms. "They get along pretty well."

Dual-parent households accounted for 53 percent of all households according to the 2000 census. A research group on the campus of Stanford University observed that the numbers have continued to decline as adults are choosing not to marry and other arrangements are prevailing.

"I always follow my parent's rules because they aren't that strict. Single parents are bound to have more trouble because they're on their own, so [their kids] have more freedom," said sophomore Chistopher Mok, who lives with both parents.

Single parent households can also have some benefits.

"I have learned to be more self sufficient," said Chloe Masseria, a sophomore living with her mother. "My mom is always working. We've kind of been forced to trust each other because there isn't someone there all the time to ensure that I am doing the right thing."

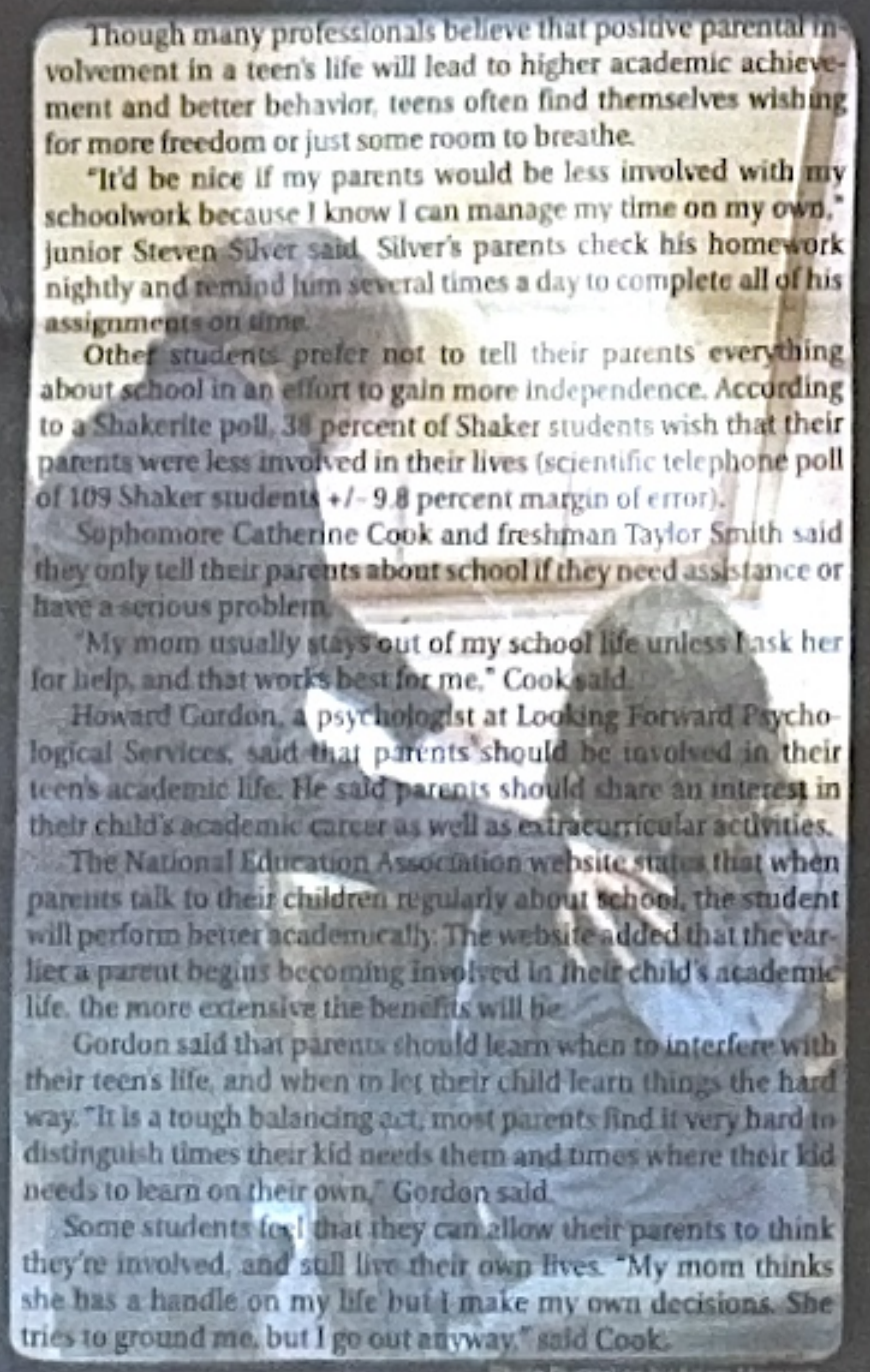
Mintz said that change is the only constant of the American family. The growing divorce rate does concern some students.

"It [the divorce rate] scares me. It makes me not want to get married," senior Julia Victor said.

Photo Illustration by Adam [illegible]

Teens in control

BY ABBY SHILLER
STAFF REPORTER



Though many professionals believe that positive parental involvement in a teen's life will lead to higher academic achievement and better behavior, teens often find themselves wishing for more freedom or just some room to breathe.

"It'd be nice if my parents would be less involved with my schoolwork because I know I can manage my time on my own," junior Steven Silver said. Silver's parents check his homework nightly and remind him several times a day to complete all of his assignments on time.

Other students prefer not to tell their parents everything about school in an effort to gain more independence. According to a Shakerite poll, 38 percent of Shaker students wish that their parents were less involved in their lives (scientific telephone poll of 109 Shaker students +/- 9.8 percent margin of error).

Sophomore Catherine Cook and freshman Taylor Smith said they only tell their parents about school if they need assistance or have a serious problem.

"My mom usually stays out of my school life unless I ask her for help, and that works best for me," Cook said.

Howard Gordon, a psychologist at Looking Forward Psychological Services, said that parents should be involved in their teen's academic life. He said parents should share an interest in their child's academic career as well as extracurricular activities.

The National Education Association website states that when parents talk to their children regularly about school, the student will perform better academically. The website added that the earlier a parent begins becoming involved in their child's academic life, the more extensive the benefits will be.

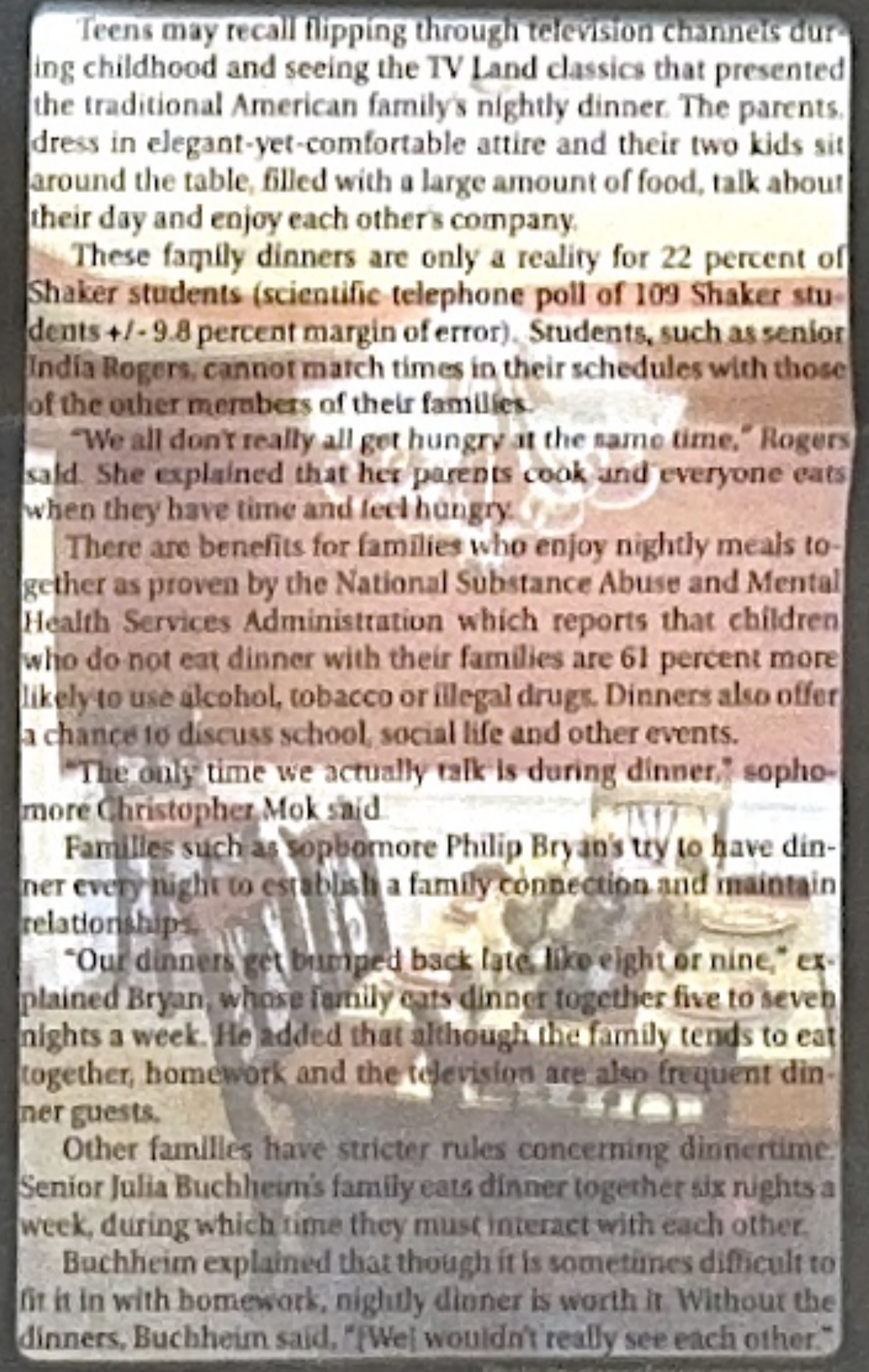
Gordon said that parents should learn when to interfere with their teen's life, and when to let their child learn things the hard way. "It is a tough balancing act, most parents find it very hard to distinguish times their kid needs them and times where their kid needs to learn on their own," Gordon said.

Some students feel that they can allow their parents to think they're involved, and still live their own lives. "My mom thinks she has a handle on my life but I make my own decisions. She tries to ground me, but I go out anyway," said Cook.

Photo Illustration by Adam [illegible]

Time for dinner

BY KELSEY DEFOREST
THE CORE EDITOR



Teens may recall flipping through television channels during childhood and seeing the TV Land classics that presented the traditional American family's nightly dinner. The parents dress in elegant-yet-comfortable attire and their two kids sit around the table, filled with a large amount of food, talk about their day and enjoy each other's company.

These family dinners are only a reality for 22 percent of Shaker students (scientific telephone poll of 109 Shaker students +/- 9.8 percent margin of error). Students, such as senior India Rogers, cannot match times in their schedules with those of the other members of their families.

"We all don't really all get hungry at the same time," Rogers said. She explained that her parents cook and everyone eats when they have time and feel hungry.

There are benefits for families who enjoy nightly meals together as proven by the National Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration which reports that children who do not eat dinner with their families are 61 percent more likely to use alcohol, tobacco or illegal drugs. Dinners also offer a chance to discuss school, social life and other events.

"The only time we actually talk is during dinner," sophomore Christopher Mok said.

Families such as sophomore Philip Bryan's try to have dinner every night to establish a family connection and maintain relationships.

"Our dinners get bumped back late, like eight or nine," explained Bryan, whose family eats dinner together five to seven nights a week. He added that although the family tends to eat together, homework and the television are also frequent dinner guests.

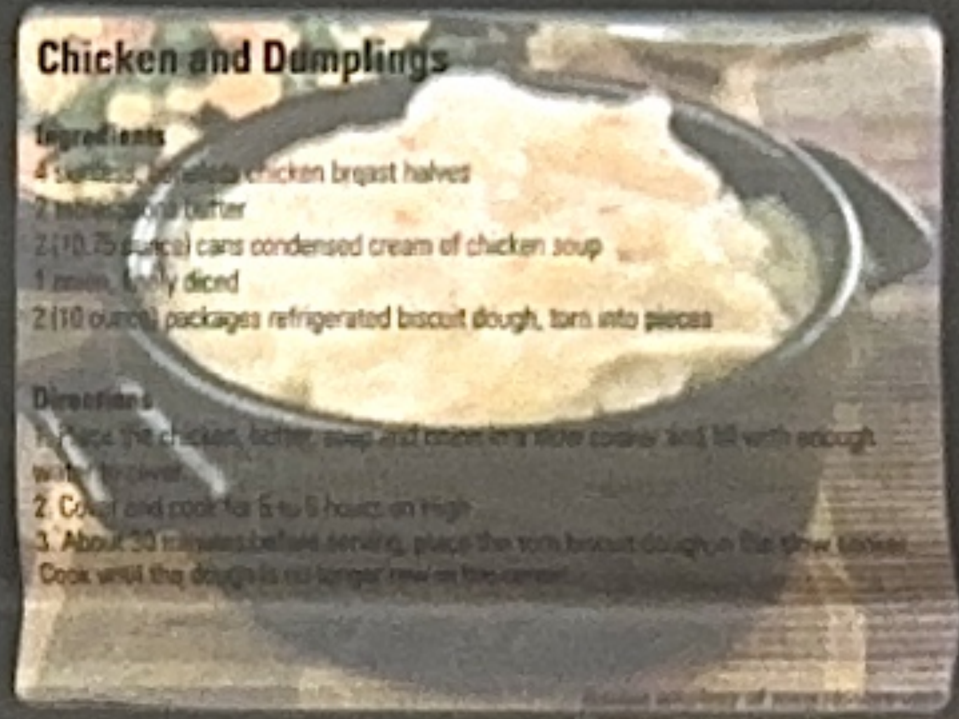
Other families have stricter rules concerning dinnertime. Senior Julia Buchheim's family eats dinner together six nights a week, during which time they must interact with each other.

Buchheim explained that though it is sometimes difficult to fit it in with homework, nightly dinner is worth it. Without the dinners, Buchheim said, "[We] wouldn't really see each other."

Photo courtesy of [illegible]

Cooking up a storm

If you're looking to maximize on family time, consider eating dinner together. Here are a couple of recipes for tasty (and very easy) food that will surely please everyone at the table.



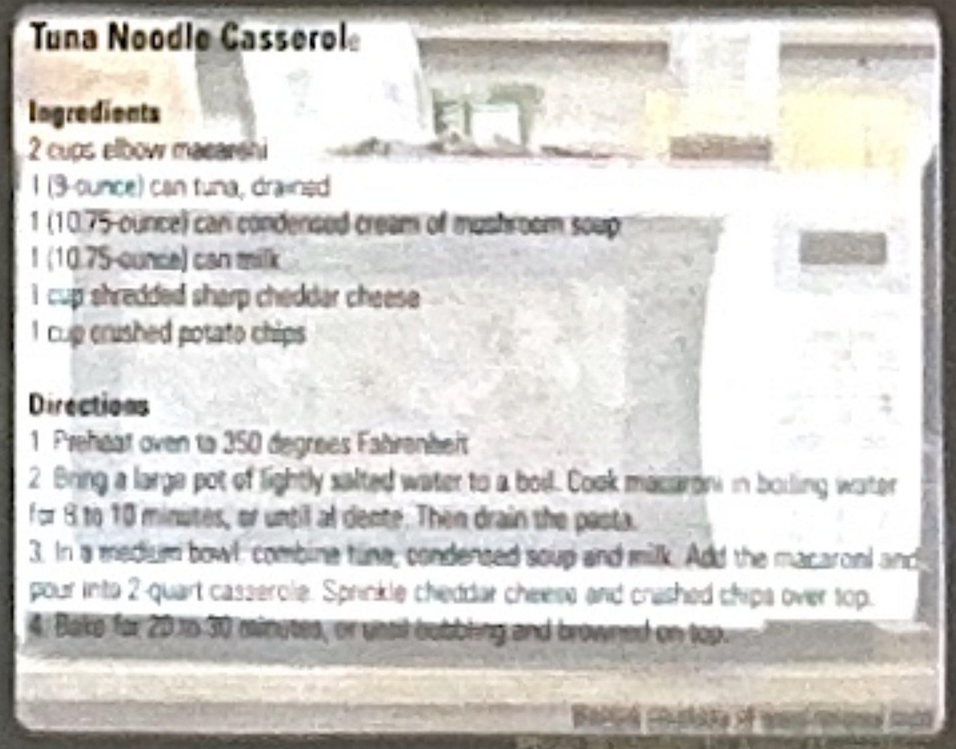
Chicken and Dumplings

Ingredients

4 skinless, boneless chicken breast halves
2 tablespoons butter
2 (10.75 ounce) cans condensed cream of chicken soup
1 onion, finely diced
2 (10 ounce) packages refrigerated biscuit dough, torn into pieces

Directions

1. Place the chicken, butter, soup and onion in a slow cooker and fill with enough water to cover.
2. Cover and cook for 5 to 6 hours on high.
3. About 30 minutes before serving, place the torn biscuit dough in the slow cooker. Cook until the dough is no longer raw in the center.



Tuna Noodle Casserole

Ingredients

2 cups elbow macaroni
1 (9-ounce) can tuna, drained
1 (10.75-ounce) can condensed cream of mushroom soup
1 (10.75-ounce) can milk
1 cup shredded sharp cheddar cheese
1 cup crushed potato chips

Directions

1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees Fahrenheit.
2. Bring a large pot of lightly salted water to a boil. Cook macaroni in boiling water for 8 to 10 minutes, or until al dente. Then drain the pasta.
3. In a medium bowl, combine tuna, condensed soup and milk. Add the macaroni and pour into 2-quart casserole. Sprinkle cheddar cheese and crushed chips over top.
4. Bake for 20 to 30 minutes, or until bubbling and browned on top.

Photo Illustration by Adam [illegible]

MEET THE FAMILIES

Photo courtesy of Michael Griffith

THE GRIFFITHS POSE at home for a family snapshot with their children, Daniel, Anna, Michael and Chloe, their dog.

GRIFFITH FAMILY

•A look into Principal Griffith's biracial family

BY ALEXA SYKES
STAFF REPORTER

Michael Griffith, principal of Shaker Heights High School and father of three biracial children, met his wife, Carol, in Los Angeles 22 years ago. Griffith said that during the 1980s, it was almost unheard of to see interracial couples, especially in that area.

"There were no outward negative reactions," Griffith said. "It [interracial marriage] certainly wasn't the norm, but there were no significant issues," he continued. Though people didn't openly comment on the relationship, there were moments when he felt uncomfortable. Griffith says that the church he and his wife attended for several years was predominately white, and one day he looked around and realized that he was different, "not different in a bad way," Griffith explained, "just different in a noticeable way."

Shortly after having their first child, Anna, in 1992, they moved to a suburb outside of Akron, Ohio, and later moved to Shaker Heights in 2000. The Griffiths felt it would be to their childrens' advantage to grow up in Shaker because of the historically integrated environment. Carol Griffith said that her main concern is that her children are exposed to both cultures equally.

Growing up in a multi-racial family, Anna Griffith, 14, said she feels like she has gotten the best of both worlds. Race has never really affected her negatively, and she feels comfortable in almost any surrounding.

As a member of the Shaker Sharks swim team during her elementary and middle school years, it was apparent to Anna that the majority of the team was white, but this never bothered her. Now a freshman and member of the women's crew team, she notes that Shaker's team is very diverse, whereas other schools' teams are typically all white. Being a minority on a team doesn't bother her, but sometimes at regattas when other teams are present, she feels noticed. "Although I'm biracial, some may see me as African American. My skin is a different color, and that's what is noticeable to others," Anna said.

At home, she feels that having parents of two different races is rewarding. "It's pretty cool to have two sides," Anna said. She said she gets to experience ethnic traditions of each race, helping her to become a very well rounded individual.

Even today, bystanders may look at the family differently, or act surprised when they find out that the members represent one family. Carol said she realizes that the racial difference is visible to the world, but it is inevitable. "It's not upsetting," Carol said.

Once at the supermarket, the Griffiths were standing in the checkout line. Carol was holding her infant son and Michael was standing behind them. The cashier looked at Michael and asked, "Can I help you?" as he was putting Carol's groceries in the bags, as if Michael couldn't possibly be with Carol and their son. According to Carol, experiences like these are almost expected in their marriage, their different races are what the world sees, but the Griffiths do not.

"Yes, we [are] noticed in a crowd," Carol said. "It [race] hasn't been a huge issue. It is just there."

Paige Family

BY ALLISON SCHARFSTEIN
EDITOR IN CHIEF

Sophomore Shanelle Paige lives alone with her mom, Angela Holt, completing this family of two. Paige sees her father occasionally, but is happy that she lives with her mother. "I used to wish both my parents lived with me, but now I'm cool because my mom is my mom." Paige and Holt enjoy a very close relationship, shopping together every week and vacationing in Las Vegas, Canada and California. They are also very open with each other. "I can talk to her about things that I couldn't talk to my father about," Paige said. Holt has always been a single mom and couldn't imagine any other lifestyle. "I wish [Paige's] father was more involved but this is just the way it is," Holt said. Both Holt and Paige said that they occasionally experience financial struggles, although they always seem to manage. Holt added that she is glad she only has one daughter, which helps to ease her financial burden. "We're close, just me and her, more like friends," said Holt. "We talk about everything."

Riffle Family

BY ALLISON SCHARFSTEIN
EDITOR IN CHIEF

Senior Alec Riffle lives alone with his father. When his parents split, Riffle chose to live with his father, while his older siblings opted to live with their mother. Riffle explained that he chose his father because he felt his father would be better able to take of him financially. Riffle's mother lives nearby but he rarely sees her, preferring to spend time alone or with his father. He cites independence as the biggest advantage of living alone with his father. "My dad lets me be independent and do whatever I want," explained Riffle, "as long as I stay on top of my school [work]." Riffle enjoys traveling with his father and said that his favorite vacation was in Eastern Europe. "My dad has a really ethnic Greek family," Riffle said, and the two often spend time with extended family. Riffle and his father also share a love of motorcycles. "Over the summer, we ride motorcycles together," Riffle said. "I wish my parents were still together," admitted Riffle, "but it's all right [living with my father], just as fine as anyone else."

Venable Family

BY ALLISON SCHARFSTEIN
EDITOR IN CHIEF

Senior Alexandra Venable lives with her father, Charles Venable, his partner, Martin Webb and Webb's mother. The four make for a very unique family. Alexandra said that her fathers' appreciation of design, art and fashion have allowed her to grow up in a cultured atmosphere that has fostered her own love for art. "As a family we enjoy contemporary art, cooking, gardening and traveling," Charles said. He added that some of their best family memories include finding their contemporary home in Shaker and celebrating Alexandra's acceptance into Vassar College. Alexandra also explained that there are some disadvantages to her family. "It's tough not having a mother figure around," Alexandra said. "I don't know where to go to ask certain questions." Alexandra's mother lives with her partner in Dallas, TX. "Sometimes people do throw my dads into a stereotype," Alexandra said. She explained that her friends assume she does not like to shop at cheap clothing stores because of her fathers' taste in fashion or that she hates pizza because her fathers cook gourmet meals most nights. Overall however, she feels as though her family is accepted. "But being at Shaker, I haven't gotten a bad rap. Shaker is really open about stuff like that."

Milter Family

BY JOSH CURRY
STAFF REPORTER

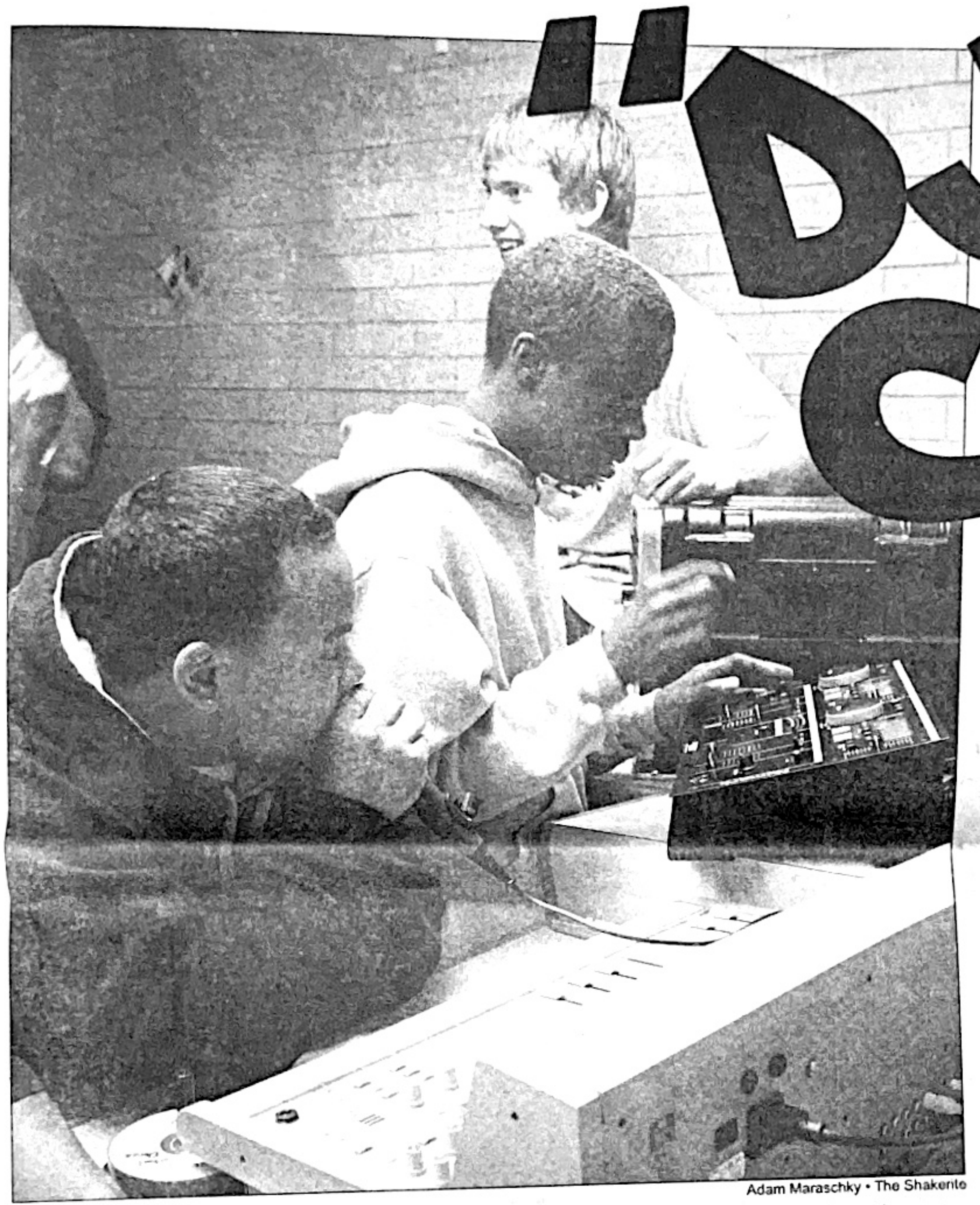
Charlie Milter, a sophomore, moved in with his retired grandparents Burt and Carolyn Milter in fourth grade. While it may seem that his family life would be different than most, Milter says that his home life is no different than his friends'. While Burt and Carolyn are 71 and 70, respectively, their age does not affect their mobility or ability to act as effective guardians. "My grandpa works out every day and my grandma still goes on runs," Milter said. Their age also contributes to a wise, unique parenting technique. "They don't spoil me like most grandparents and they make me feel really comfortable when I talk to them about complicated stuff," Milter said. One of the best parts about living with his grandparents, according to Milter, is eating a home cooked meal every night. However, he admits that his living situation leads to some uncomfortable situations. "When I used to meet people for the first time and they'd ask why I didn't live with my parents it was kind of awkward," said Milter, who preferred not to disclose this information, "but now I am much more comfortable with the situation."

Photo illustration by Adam Maraschky

YOUTH ORCHESTRA TO PERFORM CARTOON CLASSICS

The Cleveland Contemporary Youth Orchestra, directed by Liza Grossman, will be holding a concert March 10 dedicated solely to the music of cartoons. Julie and Steve Bernstein, Emmy Award-winning cartoon music composers will be working with Daniel Goldmark, Assistant Professor of Music at Case Western Reserve University and the orchestra for the concert. The performance will include music from The Jetsons, The Flintstones, Jonny Quest and Pinky and the Brain. The concert will be held Sat. March 10 at 7 p.m. in Waetjen Auditorium at Cleveland State University.

"DJ CLUB" WANTS THEIR STATION BACK



Adam Maraschky • The Shakerite

SENIOR MIGUEL BROWN and juniors Ron Bennett and Eric Balester listen to music in the radio club meeting room.

• Radio Club members push Student Council, administration to return radio station to Shaker high school

BY JOSH DAVIDSON
LIMELIGHT EDITOR

The old janitors' locker room is a fitting meeting place for the downtrodden Radio Club. The once vibrant radio station had their studio taken away, broadcasting rights revoked and credibility destroyed.

"Most people think of us as really just a DJ club," said senior Kristopher Stovall, a Radio Club member.

Yet this was not always the case. The almost unknown Radio Club that spins records at school dances and events was once radio station 91.9, broadcasting music from Shaker Heights High School to the surrounding area.

Started in 2002 as a senior project, Radio Club got a grant and formed the station. They had their own studio, a group of devoted members and more than fifty freshmen auditioning for the club.

"I signed up and was accepted into the club, one of two freshmen," said the club president, senior Will Warren.

Then the station and club were brought to sudden halt.

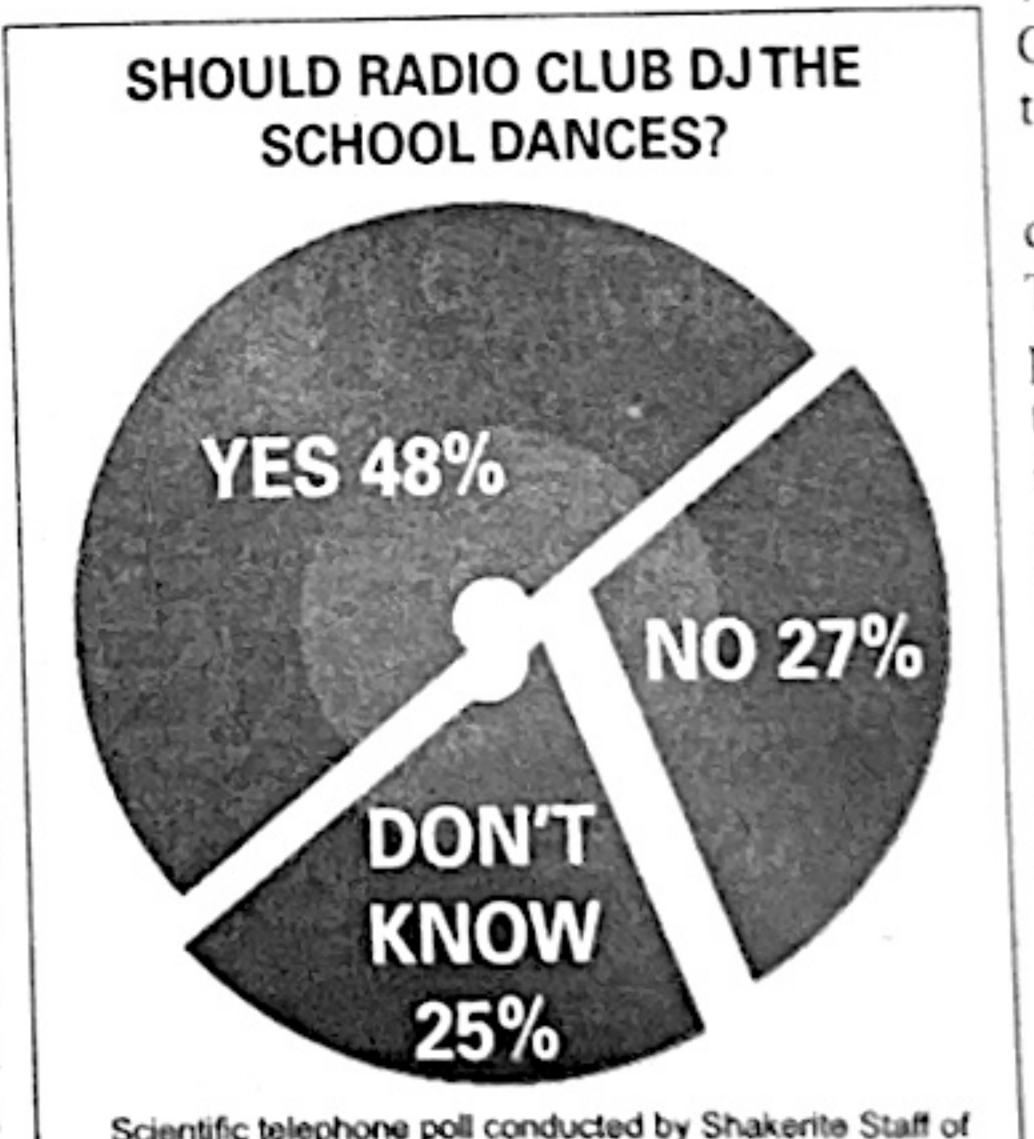
"Without pointing fingers at certain people, [the classes of] '05 [and] '06 really stopped our progress," Warren said. "They broke a lot of school rules and did a lot of outside dances that made a lot of money, which we haven't seen."

In response, the administration clamped down on Radio Club's actions. They took away the station's room and put them in the former female custodians' changing room.

"The main purpose for the room change was we were really interested in creating a parent resource room," Principal Michael Griffith said. He said that the administration "provided them [Radio Club] with a better space."

Since 2005, the members of Radio Club have repeatedly tried to get back on the air. According to Warren, they have made numerous proposals to Griffith and Student Council to get funding and to try podcasting (radio broadcast via iPod), both of which have been turned down.

Griffith said that the administration has not been negligent to Radio Club's needs, but rather that "We [the club and administration] have not gotten back to that focus" of bringing back the station. "I've offered to use student activity funds," said Griffith, who said that "in all honesty no one knows enough about the technology to figure out the multitude of ways," to bring the station back on the air. The administration has even "written proposals before, but with never enough background," to get new technology, Griffith said.



Scientific telephone poll conducted by Shakerite Staff of 109 students, margin of error +/- 9.8 percent

"They won't let us on our [radio] server so it's basically pointless. We're basically DJ club," Warren said. "That's all fine and dandy, but we're trying to get back on our feet as a radio station . . . they [the school administration] don't want any part of it."

Though they do spin the records for the Back to School Dance, Winter Ball and the Spring Fling, Student Council has repeatedly denied their requests to DJ Homecoming and Senior Prom.

"I petitioned Student Council to DJ the dance; we're cheaper, we have the equipment. They ruined a lot of people's homecoming experience with a crappy DJ," Warren said. "If the school doesn't want to pay attention to us that's fine just give us our $200. If you want to pay upwards of $500 to $1000 [for another DJ] that's fine too."

Junior class president Viveca Tress said Student Council's decision was "because [Student Council's] budget is more for homecoming and prom so we hire professionals."

Still, the members of Radio Club are hopeful about the future. They have written another grant proposal for money to start the station back up and hope that the future will bring radio back to the high school.

MP3, 1-2-3: PAUSE, REWIND, CONSIDER

- Lime Light explores the ins and outs of digital music players. This is your guide to Microsoft's new Zune, Apple's iPod and lesser-known brands such as Toshiba and Creative.

BY CARRIE REESE
LIMELIGHT EDITOR

With Apple on the brink of introducing the sixth generation of iPods, other companies have produced their own models to challenge the huge Apple-dominated music industry.

Microsoft's new Zune has gotten reviews saying that with the larger screen, FM radio, and "DJ" music streams, the Zune should be very popular; however, the Chicago Sun Times review claimed that "the Zune will be dead and gone within six months."

Senior Katie Marshall owns a Creative brand MP3 player. "It's a little red thing and it holds [almost] no music," Marshall said.

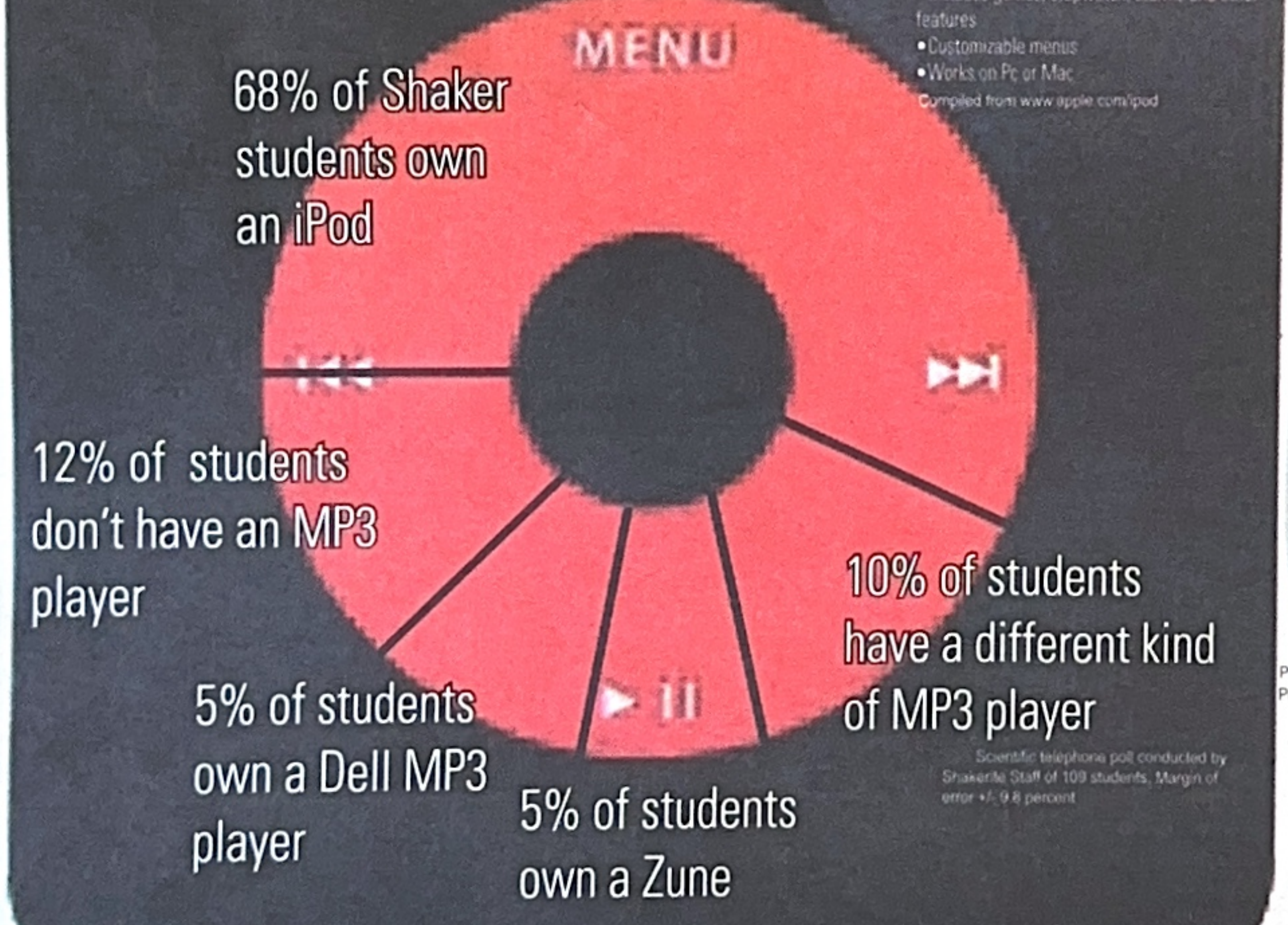
Other versions of MP3 players like the SanDisk digital audio player only two gigabytes of music and costs $90. The Creative Labs Zen Microphoto is a little bigger than the SanDisk, holding eight gigabytes and priced at $170.

Junior Andy Hunt stopped listening to his iPod after it encountered technical difficulties. "I used to have an iPod but I don't use it anymore because it kept breaking and I didn't like it," Hunt said.

Hunt's problem is an example of the downside of such devices: they come with a number of different problems. The majority of students polled have had malfunctions with their MP3 players. Twenty-two percent of students' players have had a frozen screen, 13 percent would not turn on, 15 percent have been physically broken and nine percent have problems downloading music. Only 32 percent of music player owning students polled say they have never had a problem with their iPod.

Senior Chris Smith shared Hunt's problem. "My first iPod broke. The warranty was over but I got a new one," Smith said.

Other students, such as senior Allison Tillman, love their iPods and have never had a problem *with them. "I use [my iPod] all the time. I use it to workout and I use it when I'm studying,"* Tillman said.



Scientific telephone poll conducted by Shakerite Staff of 109 students. Margin of error +/- 9.8 percent

Compiled by Carrie Reese
Infographic by Amanda Orr

Photo courtesy of www.amazon.com

IPOD

- 30 GB, 80GB from $249
- The iPod nano and iPod shuffle come in several different colors
- Small and light
- Podcasts can be downloaded free on iTunes
- Includes games, stopwatch, alarms and other features
- Customizable menus
- Works on Pc or Mac

Compiled from www.apple.com/ipod

CREATIVE

- 8 gigabytes
- Scratch-resistant screen
- Directly downloads music from a compact disc (no computer necessary)
- Alarm clock, calender and contat storage
- Easy-access joystick
- Ability to change your screen orientationunlimited downloads
- Free audio Podcast channels on www.zencast.com
- Many different varieties, sizes and prices

Compiled from www.creative.com

Menu
Music Library
Now Playing
Play Mode
Photos
FM Radio
Extras
System
CREATIVE

Photo courtesy of www.creative.com

TOSHIBA

- 30 gigabytes, 60 gigabytes
- Built in FM radio
- Voice recorder
- Compatible with different music sources like Yahoo! Music Service, MSN Music and AOL MusicNow
- Comes with carry case
- Ability to record programs through the FM tuner

Compiled from www.toshiba.com

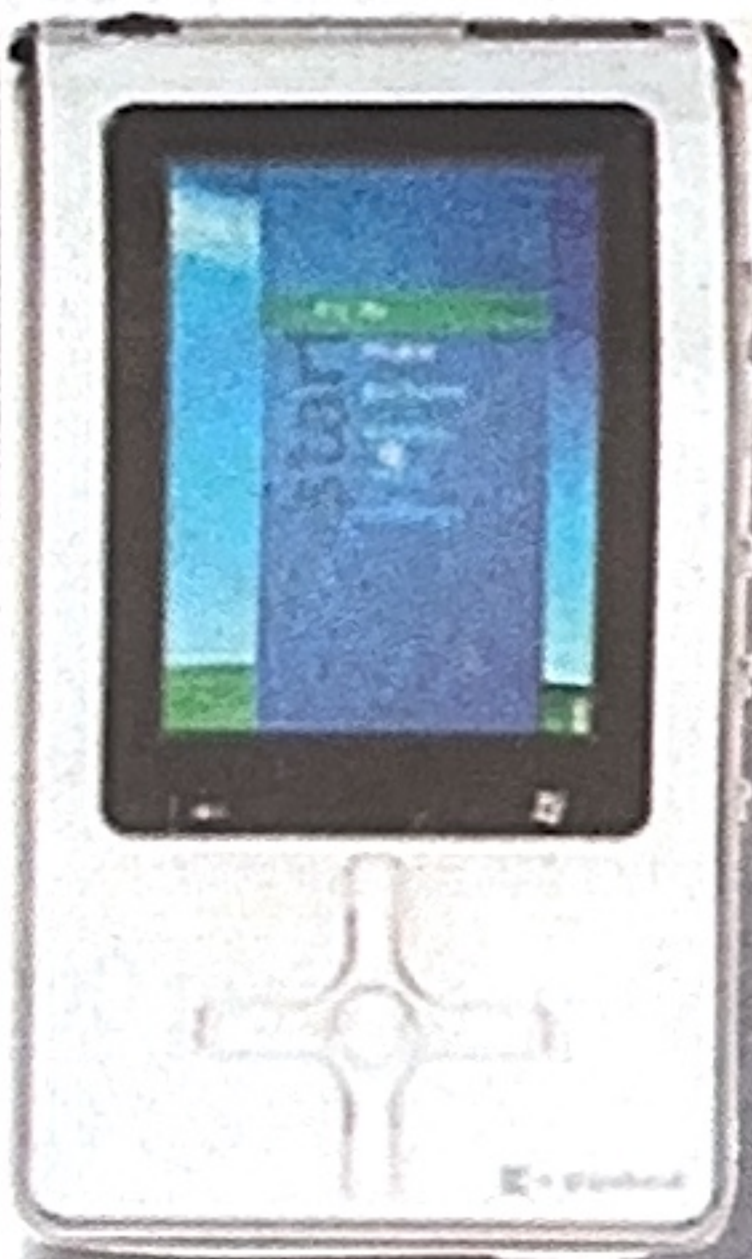


Photo courtesy of www.toshiba.com

ZUNE

- 30 gigabytes
- Wireless Zune to Zune sharing
- Three inch screen
- Built in FM radio
- Comes in Black, Brown, or White
- Subscripton to the Zune Pass allows unlimited downloads
- Only works on PC

Compiled from www.zune.net

Photo courtesy of www.headphone.com
Photo courtesy of www.zune.net

Rock Off walks away from roots

When the sanctuary of modern music condemns dance, one of its own fundamentals, pop culture is definitely in trouble.

ADAM MARASCHKY

The 2007 High School Rock-Off was set up to be a parent-pleasing night. Security imposed its wrath on any dancing at its conservative venue, the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, because of signs stating "no moshing, no crowd-surfing, no stage diving" placed on pillars.

During The Skatastophes' performance in the finals Jan. 27, about a dozen teens, including myself, were thrown out of the show and into the cold Cleveland night without our checked coats.

We were expected to wait in the snow for our belongings because apparently dance-rioting kids anywhere in the museum were too much for the public's safety. I was treated like a prisoner in a place I once enjoyed visiting.

In its most pure form, live music can be an intimate and exciting experience. However, in a still mass of awkward people, full enjoyment of the music is difficult to achieve.

I have danced at nearly every concert I've been to and never once in my show-going history have I been kicked out.

In previous years, when the Rock-Off was held at the Odeon, expressive body movements were allowed, but because it closed, the competition and its corporate sponsors had to find a new home.

In addition to dance oppression, advertisements for official Rock Off products such as T-shirts and the finals compilation filled the night. It seemed that this extravaganza was just for cash.

Fame was for the kids and fortune for the businesses.

Not that selling shirts and compact discs is a bad thing, but it bothered me when they tossed them from the stage like it was a sporting event. The concept of getting a bunch of high school bands together and having a series of shows certainly has great possibilities. Although advertisements are great for the organizers of events, intimate shows are more attainable without them.

We don't need businessmen to rev up our nights. The music scene is alive and well without them. Do-it-yourself shows are happening across the country, set up by people just like you and me. With just friends and music, you can enjoy yourself without the prizes, advertisements and glow sticks to cheer up the crowd.

Feeling the music not just with ears, but every bit of your body is just a special experience only available at concerts.

Hiding the truth from parents by putting up signs to prevent what goes on normally at shows, dancing, is a cruel marketing scheme to increase the amount of money earned by the corporations.

Pleasing the parents allows them to feel safe opening up their wallets to send their children to a concert.

The Skatastrophes sold out their tickets to kids who likely intended to dance. During the band's act, guards targeted anyone who moved. Kids were injured not by what the signs were preventing but what they encouraged: rough intervention in the pit.

Rules like this are not necessary when solidarity of interests exists between the audience and event organizers. It is sad that the home of rock and roll has come to such exploitation.

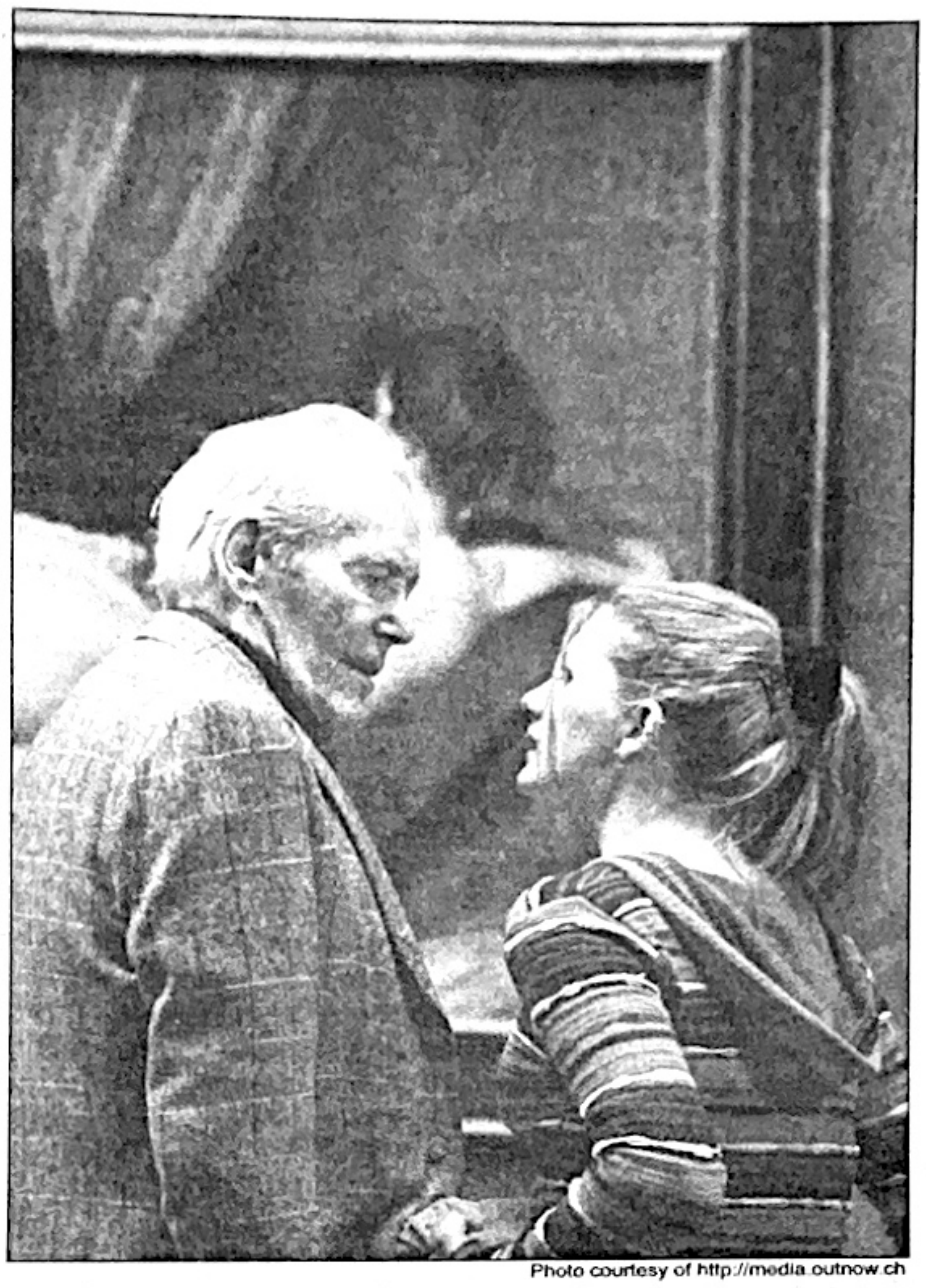


Photo courtesy of http://media.outnow.ch

PETER O'TOOLE GLANCES at Jodie Whittakaker in the nominated "Venus."

"Venus" verifies actor's aged ability

BY ALLEN ECKHOUSE
STAFF REPORTER

Old age is the greatest of routines and it too can be broken. Maurice, played by Peter O'Toole, and Ian, played by Leslie Phillips, are two aging actors, winding up their lives with a little song, drink and general carousing. However, Ian's grand-niece, Jessie, played by Jodie Whittaker, presents a final adventure for Maurice.

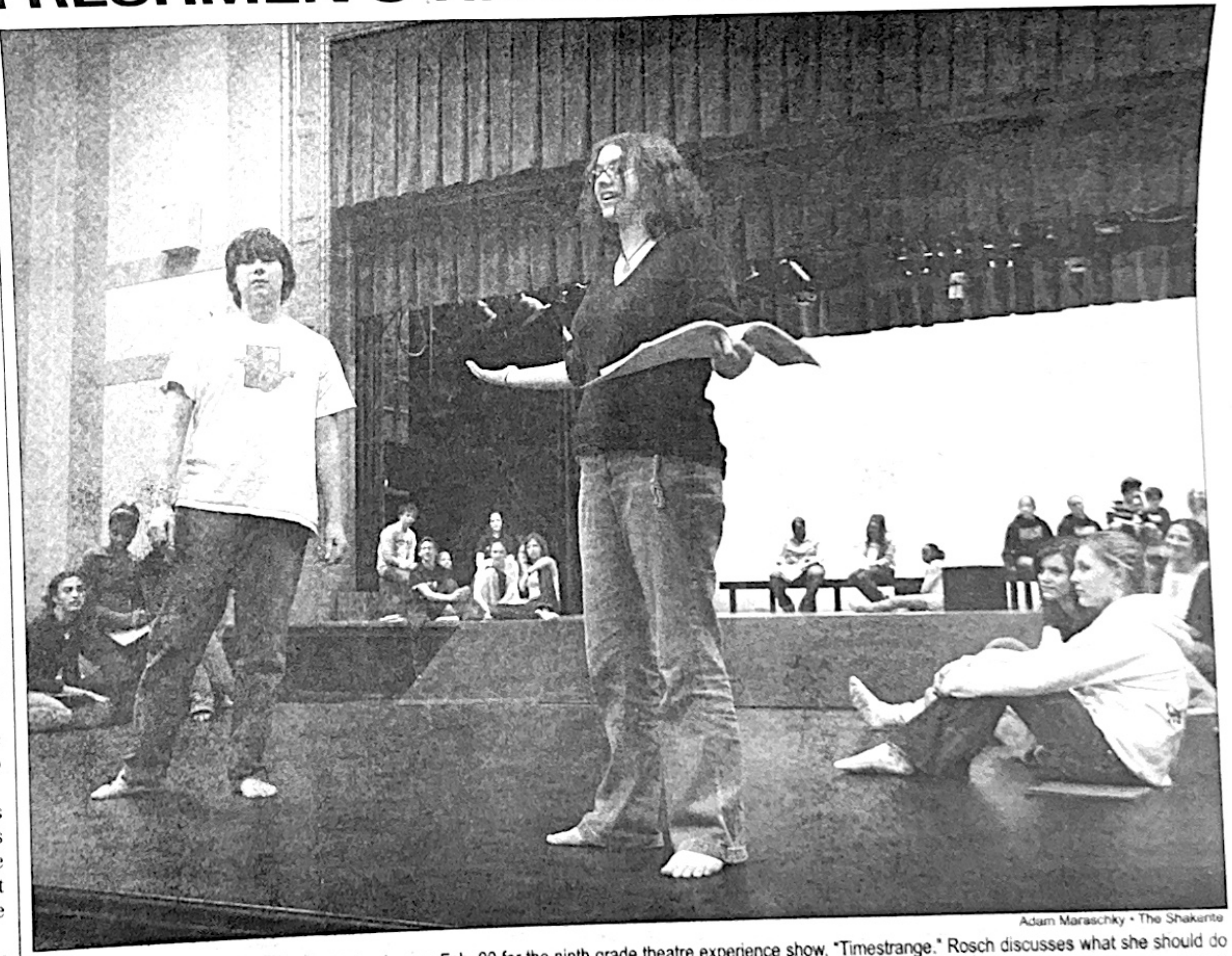
5 minute critic

Attempting to pursue an acting career in London, Jessie finds the exploits of the ancient performers a bit dull. Maurice, on the other hand, is eager to explore the youthful culture that Jessie has brought to his doorstep, all the while attempting to court the young woman he calls "Venus." From his experiences with Jessie, Maurice discovers a greater appreciation for his career, his buddies, his ex-wife and his final love interest.

Acting in a virtual "biopic" of his life, Peter O'Toole delivers a fantastic performance worthy of his eighth Academy Award nomination. Reminiscent of an aged version of the roles played in "What's New Pussycat" and "My Favorite Year," O'Toole delivers a quirky and melancholy character. The supporting roles are solid all around and give added dimension to the character of Maurice, who really steals the show.

Sudden changes between comic and tragic events are probably meant to highlight the instability of the character's life, but instead make the film a little inconsistent. While some claim "Venus" is simply a "dirty-old-man movie," it is an utterly real look at different generations and their conflicting cultures. Although O'Toole is regarded as (and plays) a world-class drinker, anyone who sees this film will experience a sobering and touching performance that only a great actor can deliver.

FRESHMEN'S TIME IN THE SPOTLIGHT



Adam Maraschky • The Shakente

FRESHMEN IAN VITKUS and Caleyn Rosch rehearse Feb. 20 for the ninth grade theatre experience show, "Timestrange." Rosch discusses what she should do in the scene titled "Chance Meeting." Directed by David Schiopota, the performance ran Feb. 23-24 and was written and performed entirely by the class of 2010. Vitkus said the experience ". . . was different. It was interesting being in a show with people all in your grade. You find out a lot about yourself."

heard in the halls

"Every time you have sex, you're having a threesome with Jesus."
2/15

"They should make heated underwear!"
2/18

"Why do I always see you? It's depressing..."
2/20

Person 1: "Now take a deep breath...and hold that for 20 minutes."
Person 2: "20 minutes?!"
2/12

"Well, I only have a few STD's..."
2/9

Person 1: "Jesus does not like that pencil."
Person 2: "Why? Because it's black?"
2/13

Person 1: "I'm considering liposuction because it makes you stop sweating."
Person 2: "That's not liposuction, that's botox!"
2/1

FILLING IN THE BUBBLES: SAT VS. ACT

- Discovering the differences between the standardized tests

BY SARAH WEISS
THE BEAT EDITOR

The only thing better than taking the ACT at 8:00 a.m. on a Saturday morning is taking the SAT at 7:45 a.m. on a Saturday morning. Well, maybe.

Sophomore Shanelle Paige has currently taken neither of these tests, but plans on taking both because she "figured it would help [her] get into college." Guidance counselor Geri Kleinman confirms this and says it is important to take these tests in high school because "the math is most fresh in your mind." Any student wishing to enter college after graduating from high school must take at least one of these tests, but knowing the difference between them can make the entire process much easier.

One of the biggest differences between the SAT and the ACT is the structure of each test. While the ACT is composed of four distinct sections (one English, one math, one reading and one science, plus an optional essay), the SAT has three critical reading sections, three math sections, three writing sections and one experimental section. This means that after the one math section on the ACT, there are no more math questions, but after the first math section on the SAT, there are two more math sections to complete later during the test. The experimental section on the SAT is a critical reading, math or writing section, but is actually a way for the College Board to try out new questions and is not included in grading process. The experimental section on the ACT is also used to test new questions, but it is clearly experimental and is only used on certain dates.

Senior Henry Distad has taken both the SAT and the ACT but preferred the SAT because of the shorter sections. "It's easier to stay focused for a shorter period of time," Distad said. *Each section on the SAT is either ten, 20 or 25 minutes long. For the ACT, each section is between* 30 and 60 minutes.

Senior William O'Connor, who has also taken both tests, likes the format of the ACT better because it is "more organized." O'Connor did not like how the SAT "was broken up into smaller parts."

The content of the tests needs to be considered when discussing their differences. The ACT has a science portion that is based on charts and experiments. The SAT has no such section. SAT math covers geometry and algebra II, while ACT math is more advanced because it includes trigonometry. The SAT has a larger emphasis on vocabulary, but the ACT stresses grammar through its 75 multiple-choice question English section (the SAT has only 49 multiple choice questions in the writing section).

When taking these two tests, it is important to remember that they are scored differently. There is a quarter-point deduction for any incorrect answer on the SAT, while a question left blank is zero points. There is no penalty for incorrect answers on the ACT, so it is best to guess on every question.

The PLAN test and the PSAT are both administered as practice tests for the ACT and SAT, respectively. These scores can provide some insight about potential scores on the real tests. Junior Erik Nystrom has not taken either test but only plans on taking the ACT. "My scores on my practice SAT weren't as good as my practice ACT," said Nystrom.

Junior Allison Paetz has a different approach; she will be taking both tests. "My counselor recommended it [taking both] to see which I do better on and take that one again," Paetz said.

Students take these tests so they can be sent to colleges, but the way the scores are sent is slightly different for the two tests. The student can decide which scores on the ACT they wish to send to colleges, so only the best scores can be sent. On the other hand, college applicants must send the scores from all SAT tests taken. For example, if you score very low the first time you take the SAT but improve the second or third time you take the test, the scores of every test you took will be sent to the colleges.

According to Kleinman, the ACT is good for five years, so students planning on deferring college would do best with this option.

Junior Aaron Dunn plans on taking both tests. "A lot of colleges I'm applying to like to see both. It looks better on a college application," Dunn said.

Colleges often welcome either type of test and will look at the best score. "We do not view the test differently," said Juliana Vines, student telecounselor at the Office of Undergraduate Admissions and First Year Experience at The Ohio State University. "We will accept as many scores as you offer, and will judge your admission and scholarship consideration based on the best score you submit."

Neither Cleveland State University nor Miami University has a preference over which test to take. Chrissy Ormond, admission counselor at Miami University, said "most students that apply to Miami have taken the ACT, but we welcome just as equally the SAT."

"The ACT is the more general test to take in Ohio," Kleinman said.

Through an e-mail interview, Tanese Horton, Cleveland State University Undergraduate Admissions Officer summed it up by saying "although the tests are different, they were both established to test aptitude."

by the #'s

25 Minutes to write the essay on the SAT

30 Minutes to write the essay on the ACT

1/4 Points off for a wrong answer on the SAT

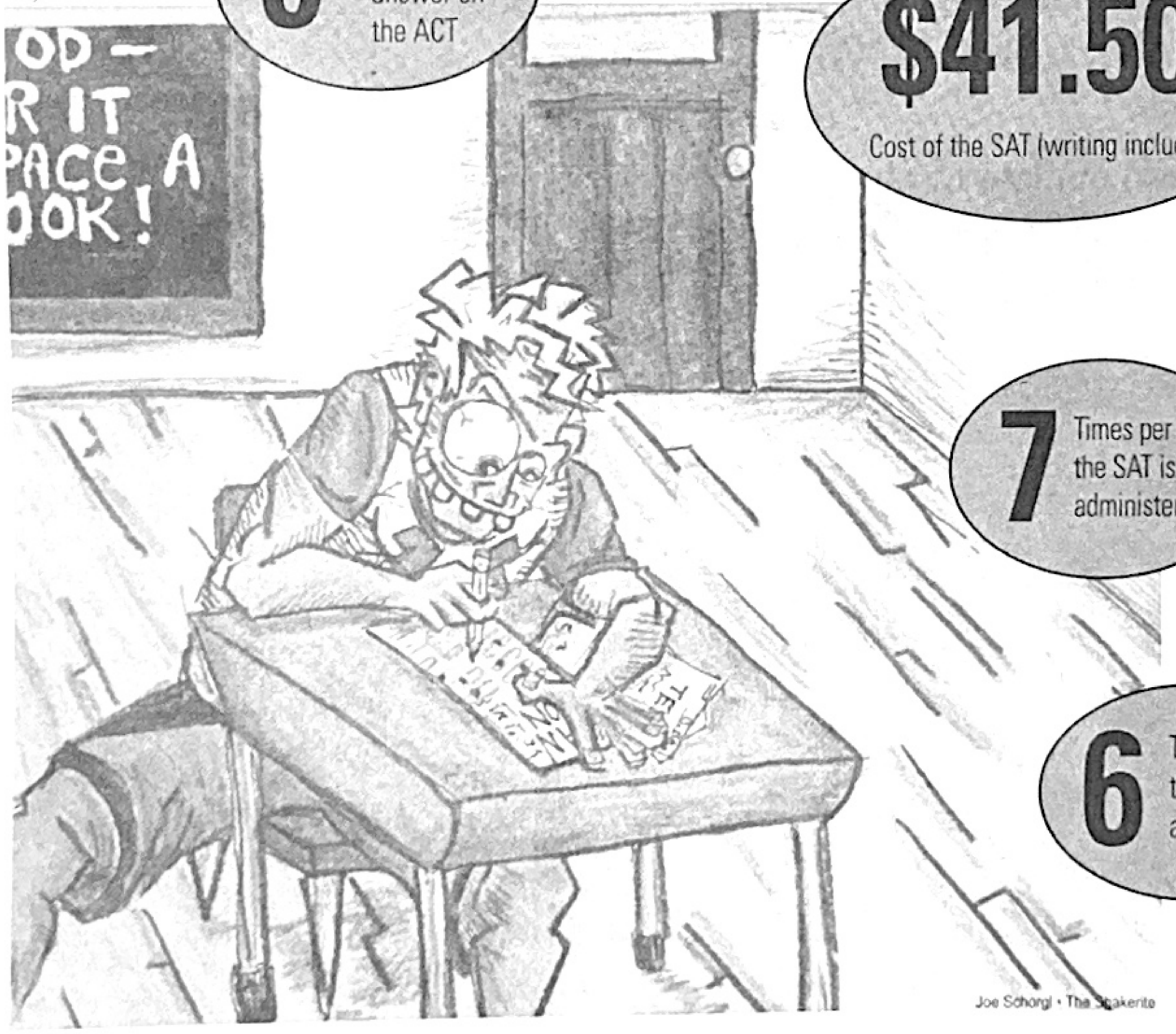
$43.00 Cost of the ACT with writing

0 Points off for a wrong answer on the ACT

$41.50 Cost of the SAT (writing included)

7 Times per year the SAT is administered

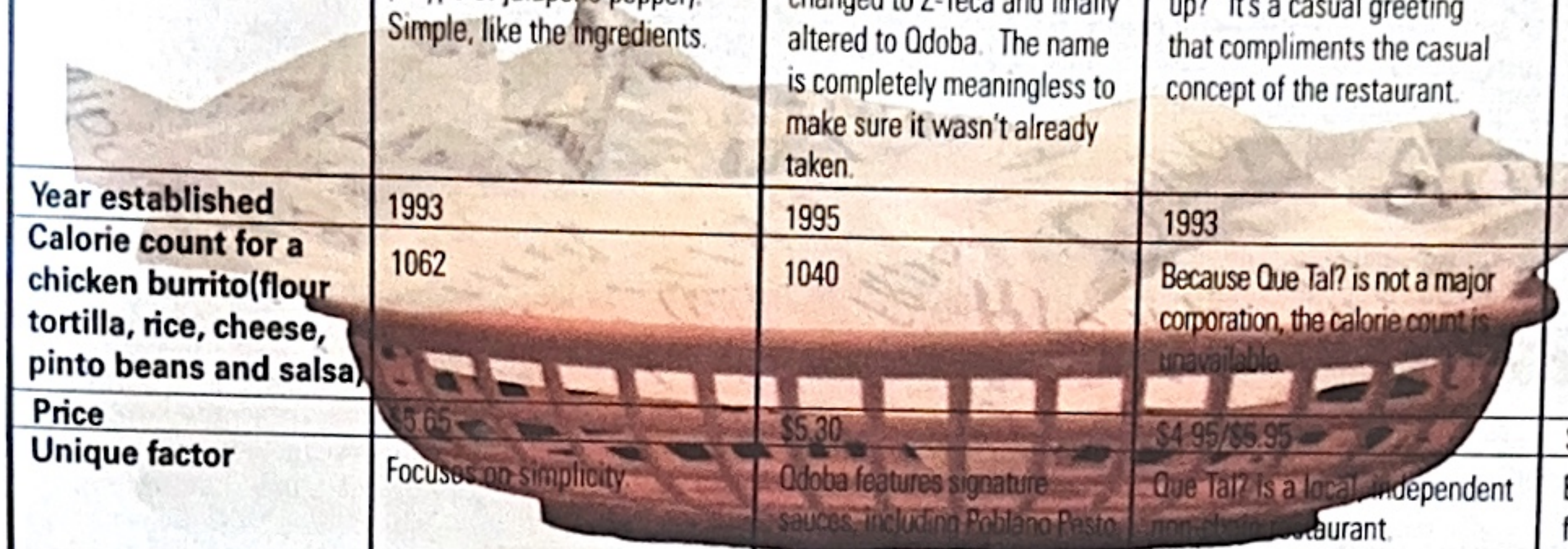
6 Times per year the ACT is administered



Joe Schorgl • The Shakerite

THE BURRITO WRAP UP

Compiled by Kelly Eisele



	Chipotle	Qdoba MEXICAN GRILL	Que Tal?	boloco INSPIRED BURRITOS
Origin of name	As in the chipotle pepper (a type of jalapeño pepper). Simple, like the ingredients.	Originally named Zuma, then changed to Z-Teca and finally altered to Qdoba. The name is completely meaningless to make sure it wasn't already taken.	In Spanish it means "what's up?" It's a casual greeting that compliments the casual concept of the restaurant.	It's short for Boston Local Company.
Year established	1993	1995	1993	1997
Calorie count for a chicken burrito(flour tortilla, rice, cheese, pinto beans and salsa)	1062	1040	Because Que Tal? is not a major corporation, the calorie count is unavailable.	Small: 663 Regular: 745
Price	$5.65	$5.30	$4.95/$5.95	$4.79/$5.79
Unique factor	Focuses on simplicity.	Qdoba features signature sauces, including Poblano Pesto, Ranchera and Three Cheese.	Que Tal? is a local, independent non-chain restaurant.	Boloco offers salsas made from scratch and alternatives such as tofu and brown rice.
Location	Coventry, Legacy Village, Cedar	Van Aken (coming soon), University Circle	Coventry	Beachwood Place

TAKING THE GOOD WITH THE BAD

cheers
& jeers

- **Cheers** to Chipotle for having delicious, homemade chips.
- **Jeers** to Chipotle for raising their prices: $5.65 for a chicken burrito.
- **Cheers** to Chipotle for having fun messages on the back of their cups.
- **Jeers** to Chipotle for being ridiculously unhealthy; a single burrito averages 1200 calories.
- **Cheers** to Qdoba for being the only one that is actually in Shaker!
- **Jeers** to Qdoba for taking so long to open; we've seen the "Coming Soon" sign for far too long.
- **Cheers** to Qdoba for proving that a burrito is not a sandwich in a Massachusetts court after Panera claimed it was in attempt to have Qdoba removed from a mall in order to prevent competition.
- **Jeers** to Qdoba for having a name that means nothing, even in Spanish.
- **Cheers** to Boloco for having ready-to-order burritos for those of us who are too lazy to choose fillings for ourselves.
- **Cheers** to Boloco for having healthy options such as tofu, wheat tortillas, Vitamin Water, smoothies, brown rice and size small burritos!
- **Jeers** to Boloco for having a generic atmosphere that is neither unique nor Latin.
- **Cheers** to Qué Tal for having both medium and large sized burritos.
- **Cheers** to Qué Tal for not being a chain restaurant. It's one of a kind.
- **Jeers** to Qué Tal for not knowing their calorie counts!

Compiled by Kelly Eisele and Abby Schiller

HUNGRY? EAT A BURRITO. FROM WHERE? TAKE YOUR PICK.

BY KELLY EISELE
THE BEAT EDITOR

Burritos are the off campus lunchtime and weekend favorites among Shaker students. People can't keep their hands off the tasty combination of wrapped Mexican style ingredients. The options of Chipotle, Que Tal?, the new Boloco and the prospective Qdoba, make it easy to get your fix of Mexican food anytime you want.

A burrito is defined as a tortilla wrapped around a filling, and each of these restaurants more or less has the same burritos. Typically, at each place, you choose your meat, beans, add the rice and decide between the salsas, cheese and other toppings. They each offer a few different options but all the burritos are made from the same concept.

While Chipotle is the favorite of 65 percent of students, there is one definite factor that students may enjoy more about Qdoba, which opens around March 24. (Scientific poll of 109 students with a margin of error +/- 9.8 percent. Shakerite staff interviewed students). "I think people will like it and go there because it's a lot closer [to the high school] than Chipotle and is more convenient," said senior Lesley Ray about Qdoba's coming location on Van Aken. Other than the convenience, Ray is excited for the arrival of Qdoba because she does not like Chipotle. "I just think [Qdoba] tastes better than Chipotle," Ray said.

Chipotle, the biggest chain of the four options, is located all around Cleveland. The most convenient site for students taking advantage of the open-campus policy is on Coventry.

Junior Brianna Blackwood-Mallory is a Chipotle fan. "I had Que Tal?, and they basically taste the same to me, but I just always go to Chipotle," Blackwood-Mallory said. "I guess it's just a habit."

Senior Merriam Vierra doesn't share the majority's opinion of Chipotle. Her main problem is the huge portions. Vierra is excited for Qdoba and says that its portions suite her better than do Chipotle's.

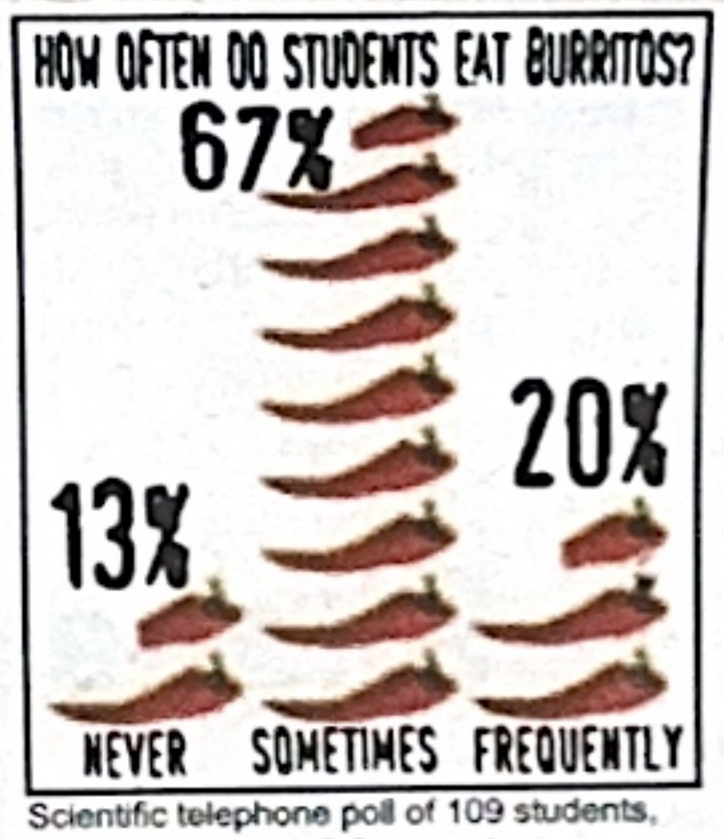
Boloco is a new attraction at the food court at Beachwood Place mall. Boloco comes off as a healthier burrito place compared to the others, offering options of tofu, brown rice, wheat tortillas and even a smaller sized burritos for those not hungry enough to indulge in the usual massive wrap.

Boloco puts a "fun spin" on the original burrito, and you can order specialty burritos that Boloco has created with predetermined ingredients, such as *The Bangkok* and *The Buffalo*.

Another burrito option is Que Tal?, a casual restaurant that sets *itself* apart from the area chain burrito restaurants. *It* is a local and independent company that makes unique food right on the premises. Mike Greenberg, president of Que Tal?, said that competing with the chains is tough.

"They have unlimited resources, large marketing departments and huge corporate support and buying power. They have and will continue to press the independent companies such as Que Tal?" Greenberg said.

Despite being a loyal fan of Chipotle, Blackwood-Mallory is still going to try out Qdoba once it opens. "I would have to go over and check it out," Blackwood-Mallory said. She doesn't think it will be much different from Chipotle, Que Tal? or any other burrito place. "There's only so much you can do to a burrito."



Scientific telephone poll of 109 students, Margin of error +/- 9.8 percent

Chipotle
Que Tal
BOLOCO
Q
D·O·B·A

Leading the charge for cheering

WESLEY LOWERY

This year the Shaker men's basketball team has the complete package. Veteran leadership, young talent and a Division I recruit guided the Raiders to an impressive 14-6 season. What more could a basketball fan want from high school athletics?

A little fan support would be nice.

Despite being one of the best teams in the area (currently ranked 14th in The Plain Dealer poll, the lowest they've been all year), Shaker's boys still aren't getting the same support as other winter teams.

The team blew out John Adams, came back against Mentor and held their own against Shaw, yet apparently none of this has merited the student body's support.

Students willingly dish out $25-$50 to see LeBron dismantle mediocre Eastern Conference teams, yet refuse to sacrifice their lunch money to support their classmates.

It disgusts me that students will pay obscene amounts of money for a ticket to the University School hockey game, only to see Shaker get demolished, and yet these same students won't come out for the home basketball game against Cleveland Heights, an equally fulfilling rivalry *game that will put you back a mere $3.*

How pathetic is it that the visitor's side of the gymnasium is often more packed then the home side?

After years of basketball mediocrity, Shaker finally has a team worth cheering for, and yet the North Gym bleachers remain sparsely occupied.

Often there are more college scouts and rival teams' players filling the home side of the stands than actual Shaker fans.

Even worse than the inexcusable lack of attendance is the fans' uninspiring dearth of enthusiasm. By quietly sitting in their seats, Shaker fans allow opposing crowds to steal home court advantage.

This was evident in Shaker's Feb. 2 overtime loss to Euclid.

Despite being down early (Shaker only scored two points in the second quarter), and mounting a double-digit comeback, it wasn't until mid-way through the overtime period that Shaker players received their first bit of encouragement. But while a "DEFENSE" cheer is nice, after 35 minutes of action the battle of the fans had already been lost.

While they may have looked stupid, Euclid's dancing junior varsity basketball players and that scarf-waving Heights fan exemplified the kind of uninhibited support that Shaker fans lack. Sure, students happily dance along to the "Top Back" remix while the team warms up and eagerly jump up when Cam Thompson throws one down or Anthony Wells strokes a three-pointer, but these sporadic glimpses of spirit far from constitute an adequate amount of applause.

Every night, sports-crazed students pack into high school gymnasiums across the country to cheer on their basketball team -- why should Shaker be any different?

Students only have one chance to root on their high school team. No one's asking that fans cheer for every play or storm the court after each game, but it would be nice to have something besides the other teams' fans to listen to.

WAITING FOR THE PUCK TO DROP

BY TEDDY CAHILL
RAIDER ZONE EDITOR

Shaker's hockey players are used to overcoming obstacles, but before their district tournament game Feb. 18 they encountered a situation never seen in the country before. The game ahead of theirs went into eight overtimes, an extra two hours, before a 1-1 tie could be broken.

"We've waited for overtime before," coach Mike Bartley said. "This game was just bizarre."

Aurora and Solon had begun their tournament game at 3 p.m., and by the time Auroa scored to end overtime, four and a half hours later, the game had set a national record for overtimes and completely disrupted the pregrame routines of both Shaker and their opponent Mayfield.

"We just watched the game after the second overtime because it's not like you can run in your shin pads and skates," junior forward Sam Weir said. "It was hard because overtimes end so suddenly it's hard to get ready."

Players who had put thier bottom half of their uniforms on before Solon tied the game with just over two minutes left in the third period, then had to decide whether to take off their equipment as overtime began, or to try and stay focused on their upcoming game. Many players didn't want to take their equipment off during the early overtimes, just to have to put it on again if there was a goal. The goalies, however, didn't have a choice.

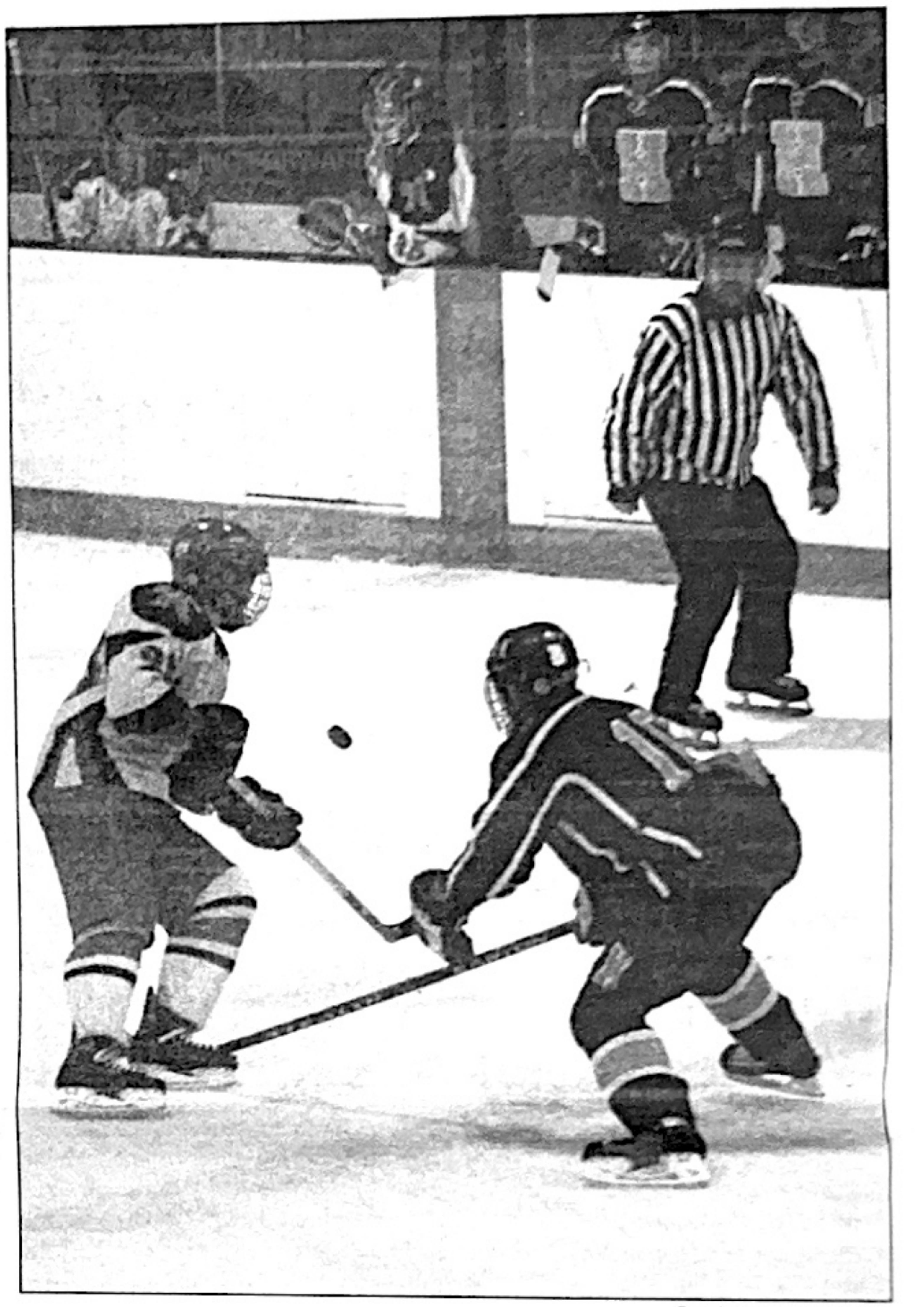
"I was in my equipment from 4:40 to 9:15 when our game ended," senior goalie Mike Karim said. "It takes me 30 minutes to put it on, and I wouldn't have had enough time between games."

It was completely new territory for Bartley, despite his over 30 years of experience coaching Shaker. "I was concerned because I didn't know what to have the kids do, but I looked over at Mayfield and they were doing the same thing," Bartley said.

There is some dispute about the impact of the wait on the team once they did get on the ice to begin their game."There was no measurable impact, I thought we played with a lot of energy," Bartley said.

Some of the players saw it differently, citing their 1-0 deficit at the end of the first period. "In the first period we didn't play up to our potential, we lost focus," Karim said.

Shaker was able to recover, winning 4-1 to advance to the district quarterfinals, before losing to Kent Rosevelt 4-2.



Dan Snider • The Shakerite

FORWARD DAN KULINSKI spars with a Hudson player during Shaker's scrimage on Feb. 10. During the district tournament, Shaker was forced to wait two hours for the eight overtime Aurora-Solon game to finish.

Shaker alumni meet success at next level

out of bounds

TEDDY CAHILL

MIKE YOUNG

ALUMNI:

Alaina Sullivan ('06) and Jack Reed ('06) were named to the 2006 USA Swimming Scholastic All-American Team. Each maintained a GPA above 3.5 and participated in the 2005 USA Spring Sectional to qualify for the award. This was Sullivan's second time making the team. She has set personal bests in the 100-meter breaststroke, 200-meter individual medley and the 200-meter breaststroke this season.

COLLEGE BRACKETOLOGY:

The world of men's college basketball has yet to see a challenger to the throne of the defending national champions, the Florida Gators (unless we're talking about Vanderbilt). Anything can happen in the NCAA tournament, though. Dominant big men tend to make a huge difference in the tournament and Greg Oden is arguably the biggest difference maker in the entire tournament. If they're not consistently knocking down outside shots, look for the similarly young but talent laden North Carolina squad to be in contention as well. No one expected Florida to come out the champs last year so maybe a team like Texas will step up in the tournament, with all-around stud Kevin Durant and other talented scorers A.J. Abrams and D.J. Augustin.

A team looking to surprise that is more likely to gain a top five seed is Louisville. Head coach Rick Pitino knows how to coach a team to the Final Four and Louisville has beat quality teams on the road.

ALUMNI PART TWO:

In the more southern parts of the country, spring has already started. Two Shaker baseball alumni faced off in the early stages of their season. Mike Eppich, closer for Rollins University, and Arden McWilliams, third baseman for Florida Southern University faced off on Feb. 14. Florida Southern came out on top, on the strength of two runs in the ninth inning allowed by Eppich for his first blown save of the young season. McWilliams went 2-4 with including a single in the eighth inning off Eppich. Rollins will get three more chances against the Moccasins before the playoffs.

HIGH SCHOOL BRACKETOGLOGY:

There are no standings to create high school men's basketball brackets, so coaches vote on the seedings, creating controversy. The top five seeds in the 13-team district are (in order): Solon, Garfield Heights, Bedford, Cleveland Heights and Shaker Heights. If teams with height (such as Shaker) double team Solon center Dallas Lauderdale, Solon is, in essence, ineffective on offense.

Garfield Heights, led by forward Daitwan Eppinger and forward Mario Hines, should have the number one seeding on the strength of their quality wins over Shaker and Bedford. Solon, however, cannot claim any victory that matches any of the other top five seeds. At the very least, Shaker should be moved ahead of Cleveland Heights, whom Shaker beat once in a meaningful game. Sixth seeded Euclid's 12-8 record includes victories against Heights and Shaker.

Women's basketball digging deep for the district title

• After a 14-5 regular season and a LEL title, Shaker earns a number two seed in the Solon district and sets sights on regionals

BY MICHAEL COWETT
STAFF REPORTER

For Ciera Burkes, Lillian Pitts and Shanna Thompson, three stars with a combined 11 years of varsity experience on Shaker's girls' basketball team, it has been a quite successful season.

With a resounding 50-point victory over Cleveland Heights Feb. 10, the team clinched a share of the Lake Erie League's Lake Division title, its first in five years.

Shaker has gone 10-1 in the league, only losing to Mentor on the road early in the season and rebounding to beat them Jan. 20.

"I think this is the best season we've had in the four years I've been here," said Burkes, a senior guard who has played varsity for all four years.

"I think it's gone pretty well. We've done a good job beating some good teams."

With 43 wins already in three seasons and 16 this year, Coach Don Readance, now in his third season at Shaker, is understandably upbeat about his team's chances in the playoffs.

"We feel very confident in where we are and how *we're playing right now," Readance* said.

After a 76-37 thrashing of Cleveland Heights in the first round, Shaker defeated John Adams 85-20 for the sectional championship Feb. 22, placing them among the final 64 teams in Division I. Pitts led all scorers with 16 points and Aja Fitten added 10. The team will face Nordonia in the district semifinals.

They are seeded second in the Solon district, despite being the team ranked highest by The Plain Dealer of those in the district.

Readance's players are similarly confident.

"We're definitely going to get out of sectionals, but I think we can make it to states if we keep it up with defense and play hard on offense," said Lillian Pitts, a junior power forward and center who leads the team with 11.5 rebounds per game.

A high point during the season was a 65-64 defeat of then top ranked Regina, a win that Pitts said was huge.

"[It was] a very big game because they were undefeated and we were the underdog," Pitts said.

On the other hand, senior forward Shanna Thompson pointed to the Holiday Cage Classic, in which Shaker defeated Bedford 75-57.

"[After that,] we thought we could compete with the best teams in the area. For me, that was the key turning point."

For both Burkes and Thompson, each of whom has played varsity for four years, this has been their best season.

"Last year started off good, but this year has been even better," Thompson said.

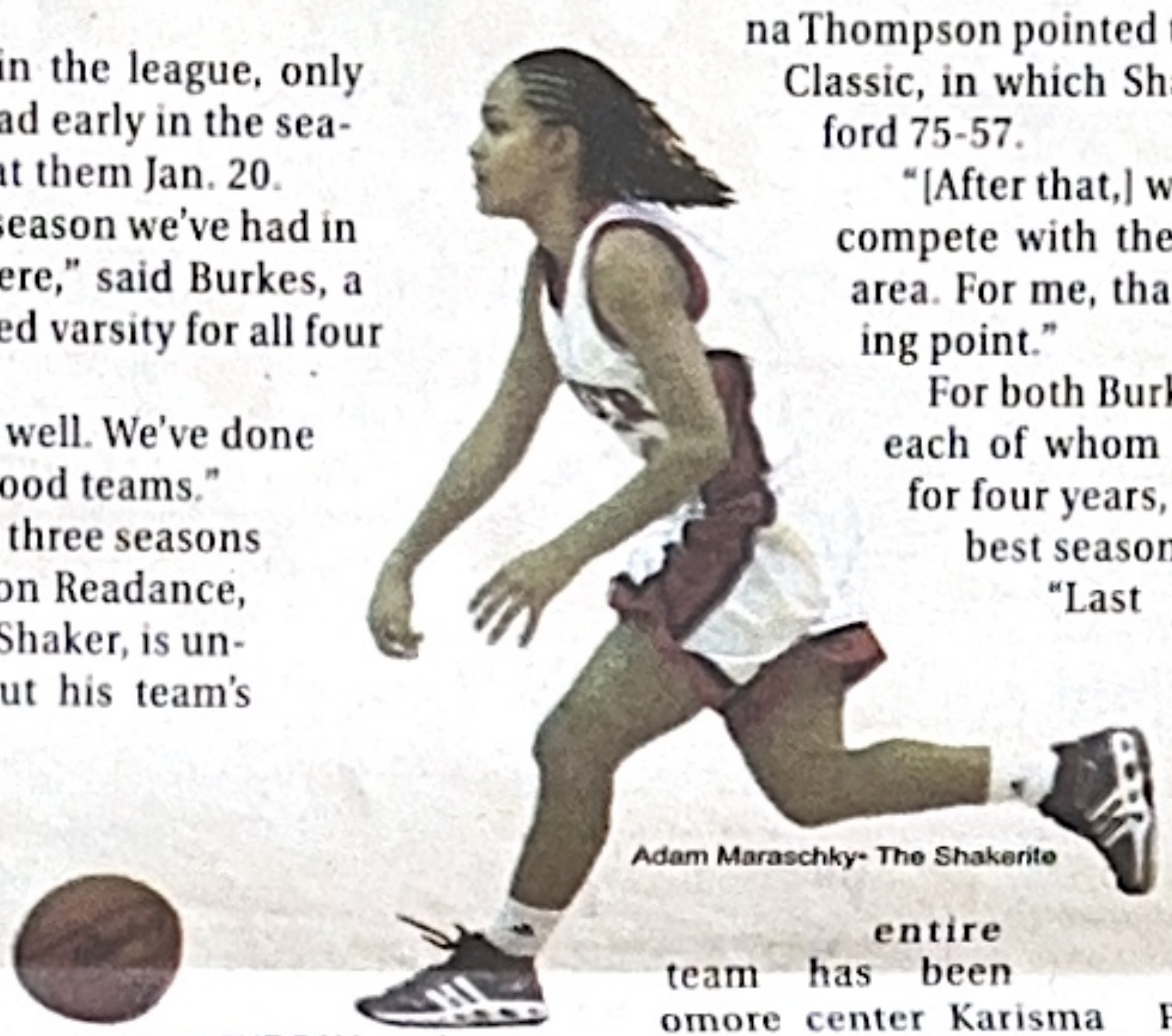
For the entire season, the team has been without sophomore center Karisma Penn.

"Overall, she's one of the better players around, and she's a very good rebounder," Readance said.

"Playing without her made us a more cohesive team. It gave us more confidence when we did have success," he added.

Burkes and Thompson both had to adapt to a new coach after their freshman season.

"It wasn't really hard to adjust. The different is the intenstiy we had to practice with and the standards we had to play to," Thompson said.


Adam Maraschky• The Shakerite

PASSING THE BALL, sophomore Jasmine Jones looks up the court.

> We feel very confident in where we are and how we're playing right now.
>
> Don Readance • head coach

Adam Maraschky• The Shakerite

SENIOR POINT GUARD Ciera Burkes drives the ball up the court during the Feb. 3 game against Lakewood. The Raiders won the game 67-47, en route to a division title and 15-5 record in the regular season.

With cameras rolling, high school athletes enter the spotlight

BY MIKE YOUNG
RAIDER ZONE EDITOR

The rise of high school sports in popular culture is evident each week on MTV. Teenagers tune in to find out about the recent drama revolving around Alabama's Hoover High School football team.

MTV's "Two-A-Days" is only one of the more recent examples of the growth of high school sports in mainstream media. Not too long ago, it was nearly impossible to find high school sports on television.

Shaker power forward Cam Thomspon said he believes there's a better crop of athletic talent in today's high schools.

"There's more [basketball] talent out there nowadays so people want to watch them on TV," he said.

In addition to reality television adding spice to high school sports, ESPN also features high school games. According to Don Readance, women's basketball coach and athletic director, ESPN is the national leader in broadcasting high school sports.

"ESPN is the trailblazer in televising high school sports," he said.

Readance said he thinks ESPN overexposes high school athletes. "There's too much focus on these high school athletes, almost as much [focus] as professional athletes," he said.

The most notable athlete in ESPN's coverage of high school sports was former St. Vincent-St. Mary graduate and current Cleveland Cavaliers star LeBron James. With James' promising future, ESPN began televising a few of his games, beginning in his junior season.

"He was the most hyped high school player ever, so people are going to want to see him," said men's basketball coach Bob Wonson. "When there's demand like that, someone will try to meet it."

Regional sports network SportsTime Ohio, originally created to carry Cleveland Indians games, expanded its coverage to carry men's high school basketball. Mentor, Euclid and Shaw, all Shaker opponents, have appeared on their network thus far.

According to STO's Vice President of Program Acquisition and Executive Producer Pat Kilkenney, they have two major reasons for selecting games. "Location... and competition," Kilkenney said. "Also, it's always beneficial to have a player or program that draws interest."

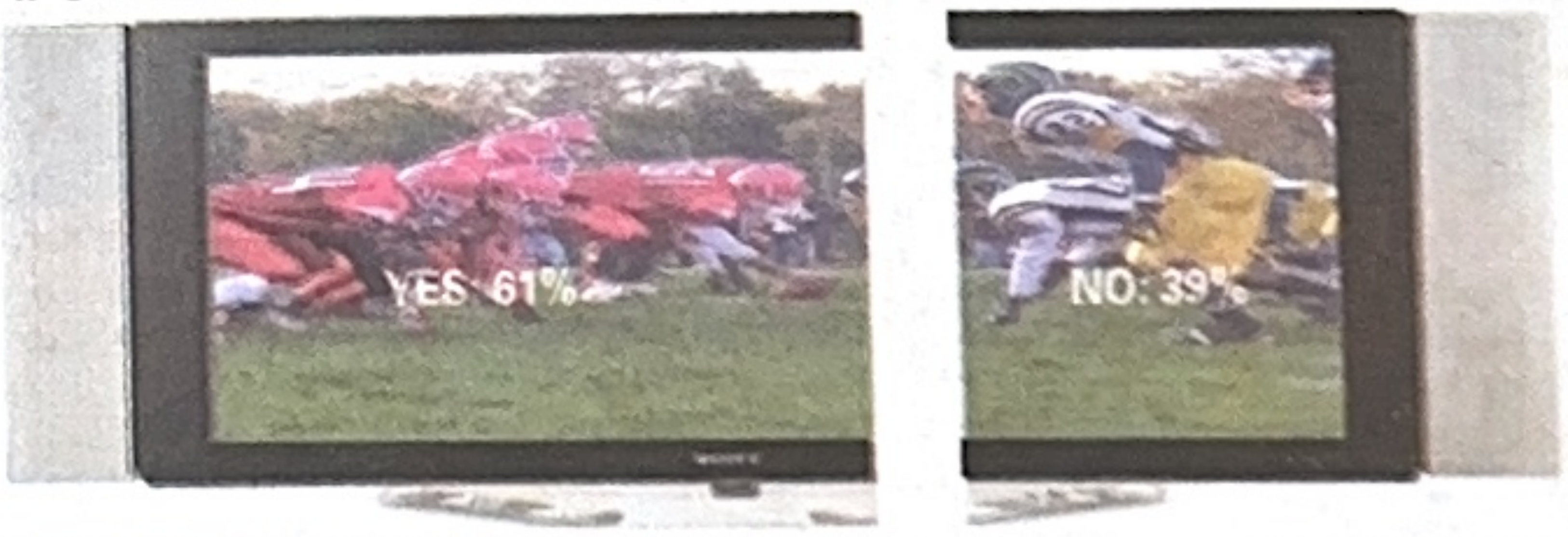
Wonson said that television could be used as a valuable tool for scouting.

"I tape all those games," he said. "They're helpful and you never know who you're going to play in the tournament."

Though television exposure does have its negative effects, including traveling to find quality matchups, Readance said he believes there are good qualities to television exposure.

"It's good for the kids and it's a good chance for others to see our athletes."

IF SHAKER SPORTS WERE TELEVISED WOULD YOU WATCH THEM ON T.V.?



Scientific telephone poll of 103 students with a margin of error +/- 9.8 percent.

Infographic by Mike Young

CLOPTON MARCHES TOWARDS COLUMBUS:

Star wrestler Marcel Clopton is making another run at the state tournament after finishing as a runner-up last year. The 135-pound Clopton advanced through the Massilon region defeating five other wrestlers. During the regular season, the team went 7-3 in dual meets and Clopton notched a huge pin in a triangular meet against University School and Hudson. In the Top Gun tournament, Clopton finished second, beating one previous state champion in the process. Clopton became Shaker's all-time wins leader with 124 wins topping the previous mark of 120.

UNDERDOG STORIES END UP ON TOP

• Raider Zone ranks the top nine sports movies of all time

The "Field of Dreams" quote "If you build it, they will come" gave us the inspiration to make a list of the greatest sports movies of all time. If Raider Zone editors Mike Young and Teddy Cahill and Editor in Chief Wesley Lowery write it, inevitably, you will read. With the Oscars taking place Feb. 25, it is only fitting that we dissect the world of sports movies. Here's our list of the top 9 (first place vote equals ten points, second equals nine points, etc. Votes from the three editors are added together).

1) Hoosiers-30

Hickory High coach Norman Dale (Gene Hackman) isn't the best basketball strategist out there. His "pass four times before you shoot" philosophy at the beginning of the movie helps team chemistry more than it helps to open up shots. It really doesn't matter, though, because he has Jimmy Chitwood (Maris Valainis) at his disposal, the star player who seemingly misses only a few shots the entire movie.

"Hoosiers" evokes the typical sports "underdog" theme using the small-town Hickory High team, but it executes it much better than any other sports movie.

The embattled coach Dale, new in town, struggles to find acceptance in his community with his unorthodox ways of teaching the game.

2) The Natural- 20

This film adaptation of the book "The Natural" stars Robert Redford as Roy Hobbs, a middle aged man with a mysterious past and hopes of returning to baseball glory. Hobbs has been away from the game for 16 years when he walks onto the fictional New York Knights, and terrorizes major league pitchers. The Knights' owner poisons Hobbs, which aggravates the lingering internal injuries from an old gunshot wound.

Hobbs refuses to allow his deteriorating physical condition to jeopardize the Knights' chance at the pennant, and despite bleeding through his uniform, steps to the plate with hopes of winning the game's. Hobbs' beloved 'Wonderbat' breaks on the first pitch, and using a new bat, he sends the game winning homerun into the stadium lights causing a firework effect to spray over the field.

3) Rocky-19

Rocky Balboa (Sylvester Stallone) is given the chance of a lifetime when Apollo Creed, the world heavyweight-boxing champion, challenges him to a match. The film chronicles Balboa's grueling training which involves a steady diet of raw eggs, sprinting up the stairs in front of the Philadelphia Museum of Art and practice-punches on carcasses hanging in the freezers of his best friend Paulie's (Burt Young) meat packing plant.

Balboa doesn't expect to win the fight against Creed, he only wants to last the full 15 rounds. He does just that, and despite losing the fight on the judges' decision, his performance shocks the boxing world and lands him the girl.

4) Field of Dreams-16

"Field of Dreams" is an unrealistic, yet strangely compelling tale. Iowa farmer Ray Kinsella (Kevin Costner) receives a message from an anonymous voice, which tells him, "If you build it, he will come." Viewers are taken along Kinsella's crazy voyage from his cornfield-turned-baseball field in Iowa and across the United States. What we see on Kinsella's field is a team of ghost players, most notably "Shoeless" Joe Jackson, who was Kinsella's father's favorite player. At the end of the story, the plot of the story comes together, showing the relationship between Kinsella and his deceased father, as they bond over a game of catch.

5) Bull Durham-15

"Bull Durham" illustrates two subjects that many men love: sex and baseball. The movie follows two players heading in different directions in their careers. Nuke LaLoshe (Tim Robbins) is a hotshot young pitcher on his way to the major leagues. His catcher, Crash Davis (Costner), was brought in to mentor LaLoshe on his way to the bigs. Annie Savoy (Susan Sarandon), a fan of the Bulls who has an affair with one player every year, complicates this relationship when she has to pick between LaLoshe and Davis. Costner's performance as Davis is superb as he guides LaLoshe to the majors with plenty of laughs on the way.

6) Raging Bull- 13

Robert De Niro turns in one of his best acting performances in his portrayal of the self-destructive boxer Jake La Motta. It is tough to empathize with La Motta, who constantly gets in domestic disputes with his wife Vickie (Cathy Moriarty). The movie is filmed in black and white, which represents the time period (the 1940s) and makes it all the more distinctive for a modern movie. The fight scenes, especially the dramatic fights with legendary boxer Sugar Ray Robinson (Johnny Barnes), are tremendous and much more realistic than any boxing movie made at the time.

7) Chariots of Fire- 12

Of all the movies on this list, "Chariots of Fire" is the one that truly transcends sports. The movie is about two English Olympic champion runners, Eric Liddell (Ian Charleson) and Harold Abrahams (Ben Cross), and their personal rivalry. Liddell is a strong Scottish Protestant who refuses to race on Sundays, and must explain this decision to the Prince of Wales the day before a key race. His rival is an English Jew who is just trying to be accepted in 1920s English society.

8) Remember the Titans-11

The movie tells the story of Herman Boone (Denzel Washington) and the 1971 T.C. Williams High School football team, the Titans. Boone is brought in to coach the team, a controversial decision because he took the white community's candidate for the job, Bill Yoast (Will Patton). The team puts together an undefeated season behind captains Julius Campbell (Wood Harris) and Gary Bertier (Ryan Hurst), however their willpower is tested when Bertier is paralyzed in a car crash before the state championship game. The game comes down to the last play, and on a full field run the Titans win the game.

9) For the Love of the Game-9

In yet another Costner baseball movie, he plays Billy Chapel, a 40-year-old pitcher at the end of his career and his world is changing around him. On the last day of the season, Chapel, who has been a Detroit Tiger his whole career, learns that the team will be sold and that the new owners want to trade him to New York. On the same day he learns the love of his life, Jane Aubrey (Kelly Preston) will be moving to London to further her career. As he takes the mound, Chapel flashes back through his career and his relationship with Aubrey. Chapel throws a perfect game before walking away, choosing to retire as a Tiger and follow Aubrey to London.